

City of Mt. Vernon, Iowa

Meeting:	Mt. Vernon City Council Meeting
Place:	Mt. Vernon City Hall, 213 First Street NW, Mt. Vernon, Iowa 52314
Date/Time:	June 20, 2016 – 6:30 PM
Web Page:	www.cityofmtvernon-ia.gov
Posted:	June 17, 2016

Mayor:	Jamie Hampton	City Administrator:	Chris Nosbisch
Mayor Pro-Tem:	Marty Christensen	City Attorney:	Robert Hatala
Councilperson:	Paul Tuerler	Assis. Admin/City Clerk:	Sue Ripke
Councilperson:	Scott Rose	Deputy City Clerk:	Marsha Dewell
Councilperson:	Tom Wieseler	Chief of Police:	Doug Shannon
Councilperson:	Eric Roudabush		

A. Call to Order

B. Agenda Additions/Agenda Approval

C. Communications:

1. Unscheduled
2. David Osterberg – Community Solar

If you wish to address the City Council on subjects pertaining to today's meeting agenda, please wait until that item on the agenda is reached. If you wish to address the City Council on an item **not** on the agenda, please approach the microphone and give your name and address for the public record before discussing your item. Each individual will be granted no more than five (5) minutes.

D. Consent Agenda

Note: These are routine items and will be enacted by one motion without separate discussion unless a Council Member requests separate consideration.

1. Approval of City Council Minutes – June 6, 2016 Regular Council Meeting
2. Approval of Liquor License – Casey's General Store #1599
3. Appoint Chief Shannon to Ambulance Board

E. Public Hearing

1. Public Hearing on Ordinance to Amend Chapter 5 Operating Procedures of the City of Mt. Vernon Municipal Code
 - i. Close Public Hearing – proceed to F-1

F. Ordinance Approval/Amendment

1. An Ordinance Amending Chapter 5 Operating Procedures of the City of Mt. Vernon Municipal Code
 - i. Motion to approve first reading and proceed with second reading/or suspend rules and proceed to third and final reading
2. An Ordinance Amending Chapter 15 Mayor of the City of Mt. Vernon Municipal Code
 - i. Motion to approve second reading and proceed with third reading/or suspend rules and proceed to third and final reading
3. An Ordinance Amending Chapter 17 Council of the City of Mt. Vernon Municipal Code
 - i. Motion to approve second reading and proceed with third reading/or suspend rules and proceed to third and final reading
4. An Ordinance Amending Chapter 21 Administrator of the City of Mt. Vernon Municipal Code

- i. Motion to approve second reading and proceed with third reading/or suspend rules and proceed to third and final reading
5. An Ordinance Amending Chapter 92 Water Rates of the City of Mt. Vernon Municipal Code
 - i. Motion to approve second reading and proceed with third reading/or suspend rules and proceed to third and final reading

G. Resolutions for Approval

1. Resolution Approving the City of Mt. Vernon Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan
2. Resolution Designating the City of Mt. Vernon, Iowa a Bee City USA
3. Resolution Accepting the 2015 Water Treatment Plan Improvements as Substantially Complete and Preparing to Release the Project Retainage
4. Resolution Accepting the 2016 Swimming Pool Improvements as Substantially Complete and Preparing to Release the Project Retainage
5. Resolution Setting the Fiscal 2016-2017 Salaries for the Appointed Officers and Employees of the City of Mt. Vernon

H. Mayoral Proclamation

1. Proclamation Establishing June 23, 2016 as Olympic Day in the City of Mt. Vernon

I. Old Business

1. None

J. Motions for Approval

1. Consideration of Claims List – Motion to Approve
2. Discussion and Consideration of Corrective Measures to the Driveway Entrance of Gary's Foods from 1st Ave South – Council Action as Needed
3. Discussion and Consideration of Establishing 2016 City Council Goals and Objectives – Council Action as Needed
4. Discussion and Consideration of Pay Application # 3 – 2015 Water Treatment Plant Improvements – Council Action as Needed
5. Discussion and Consideration of Change Order #1 – 2016 Swimming Pool Improvements – Council Action as Needed
6. Discussion and Consideration of Pay Application #1 – 2016 Swimming Pool Improvements – Pool Filters and Heaters – Council Action as Needed
7. Discussion and Consideration of Quote for Purchase of a Hustler Super 104 Mower – Council Action as Needed
8. Discussion and Consideration of Purchase and Installation of Security Camera System at the Public Works Facility – Council Action as Needed
9. Discussion and Consideration of Setting Public Hearing Date for an Ordinance to Adopt Chapter 48 Social Host of the Mt. Vernon Municipal Code
10. Discussion and Consideration of Setting Public Hearing Date for an Ordinance to Adopt Chapter 153 Demolition Code of the Mt. Vernon Municipal Code
11. Discussion and Consideration of Setting Public Hearing Date for an Ordinance to Adopt Table 4.2 of the Mt. Vernon Municipal Zoning Code
12. Discussion and Consideration of Rescheduling the July 4, 2016 Council Date – Council Action as Needed
13. Discussion and Consideration of Police Chief Employment Agreement Renewal – Council Action as Needed

K. Reports to be Received/Filed

1. Mt. Vernon Police Report
2. Mt. Vernon Parks and Recreation Report
3. Mt. Vernon Public Works Report

L. Discussion Items (No Action)

1. None

M. Reports of Mayor/Council/Administrator

1. Mayor's Report
2. Council Reports
3. Committee Reports
4. City Administrator's Report

N. Adjournment

Pursuant to §21.4(2) of the Code of Iowa, the City has the right to amend this agenda up until 24 hours before the posted meeting time.

If anyone with a disability would like to attend the meeting, please call City Hall at 895-8742 to arrange for accommodations.

C. Communications

Mount Vernon should embrace solar power

Considerations for solar energy systems in Mount Vernon, Iowa

By Sustainability Advisory Committee

Electricity generation from renewable energy continues to increase around the world. Last year in the United States more than 60 percent of new additions to electric generation were from two sources — wind and solar, nearly half of that from solar. ¹ Solar generation has almost tripled in the past two years. ² Many homeowners, local governments and business owners across Iowa have heard about the benefits of producing their own electricity by installing a solar electric production system on their property. Benefits include long-term energy price stability, overall reduction in utility costs, independence and self-reliance, local job creation and a positive impact on the environment by reducing fossil fuel consumption that release gasses to the atmosphere.

Solar power is not limited to individuals and businesses. Cities can also install solar electric systems to reduce monthly bills. In

addition, large solar systems at the best location in town can be an option for city residents, businesses as well as city government to make sustainability a commitment of the entire community. Mount Vernon city leaders created a Sustainability Advisory Committee to help them create a vision of sustainability. Our leaders can take action to make this community a solar city, which follows the spirit and specific statements in the 2016 Comprehensive Plan found on the city website. (right).³

Promote Sustainable Development. Mount Vernon should be a leader in sustainable development efforts. As mentioned throughout this plan, the city should promote low-impact development and green conservation standards including the use of renewable energy options. Examples include but are not limited to: residential solar and wind energy and a rain barrel program. Efficient transportation patterns, green building practices and mixed-use, walkable developments all lead to increased sustainability and an increased quality of life for area residents.

This report discusses the solar decision-making process. The considerations to determine whether to pursue a solar depend on:

1. physical location;
2. electric rates;
3. incentives & government mandates; and
4. behavior of the present supplier of power, Interstate Power & Light, better known as Alliant.

Physical Location

Physical Determinations

Whether designing a system for the City Hall roof, a business on Mount Vernon's Main Street or a residence, the first step to determining if solar energy will work is to evaluate whether the property is physically well suited for a solar installation, and how much energy can be generated.

Producing energy from any solar panel system is deceptively simple. The location can be a smooth roof surface, clear of venting pipes, skylights, air conditioning units and other obstructions. An alternative is for the panels to be mounted on a metal framing system and placed anywhere on the property. Either location must have a clear view facing south, east or west, or any direction in between (e.g. SW, SSE). The pictures below demonstrate the two possibilities.



At left, a home near Iowa City before installation of a rooftop solar system. At right, same home showing roof area free of trees. Below, home after installation of a 6 kilowatt solar system.



Alternative to a rooftop location is a ground mount — photo: <http://ecolomprint.co.uk/solar-panel-installation-man>

Sufficient space for panels in relatively close proximity to where the energy is consumed and facing any direction but north is a requirement but it is also important to note that any shade from obstructions (particularly trees) will reduce productivity of the solar system. Consider that trees will grow and that a solar installation will remain for 25-50 years.

Once a site has been identified, measure its area, either by physically taking measurements, or by using mapping software. Google Earth® is an excellent tool for this, as is the website PV Watts from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL).

Determine Needed Square Footage

Individual solar panels vary in their dimensions, and each is rated to produce a different wattage. Standard residential solar panels contain 60 solar “cells” and have a total length measuring 1.675 meters (about 66 inches) and a total width measuring 1 meter (about 39.4 inches) for a complete area of 1.675 m² or 18.03 ft². There are also industrial sized panels with 72 cells.

If you’re not familiar with solar measurements, it’s probably helpful to take a moment before reading further to understand distinctions between a watt, a kilowatt (1,000 watts, abbreviated kW), and a kilowatt hour (kWh), defined below in the simplest terms.

watt (W): unit of energy conversion over time

kilowatt (kW): 1,000 watts; used, with respect to solar, to indicate a *unit of raw power* from the sun

kilowatt hour (kWh): amount of energy in KWs sustained over one hour; used, with respect to solar, to indicate a *unit of energy generated* from kW of solar power.

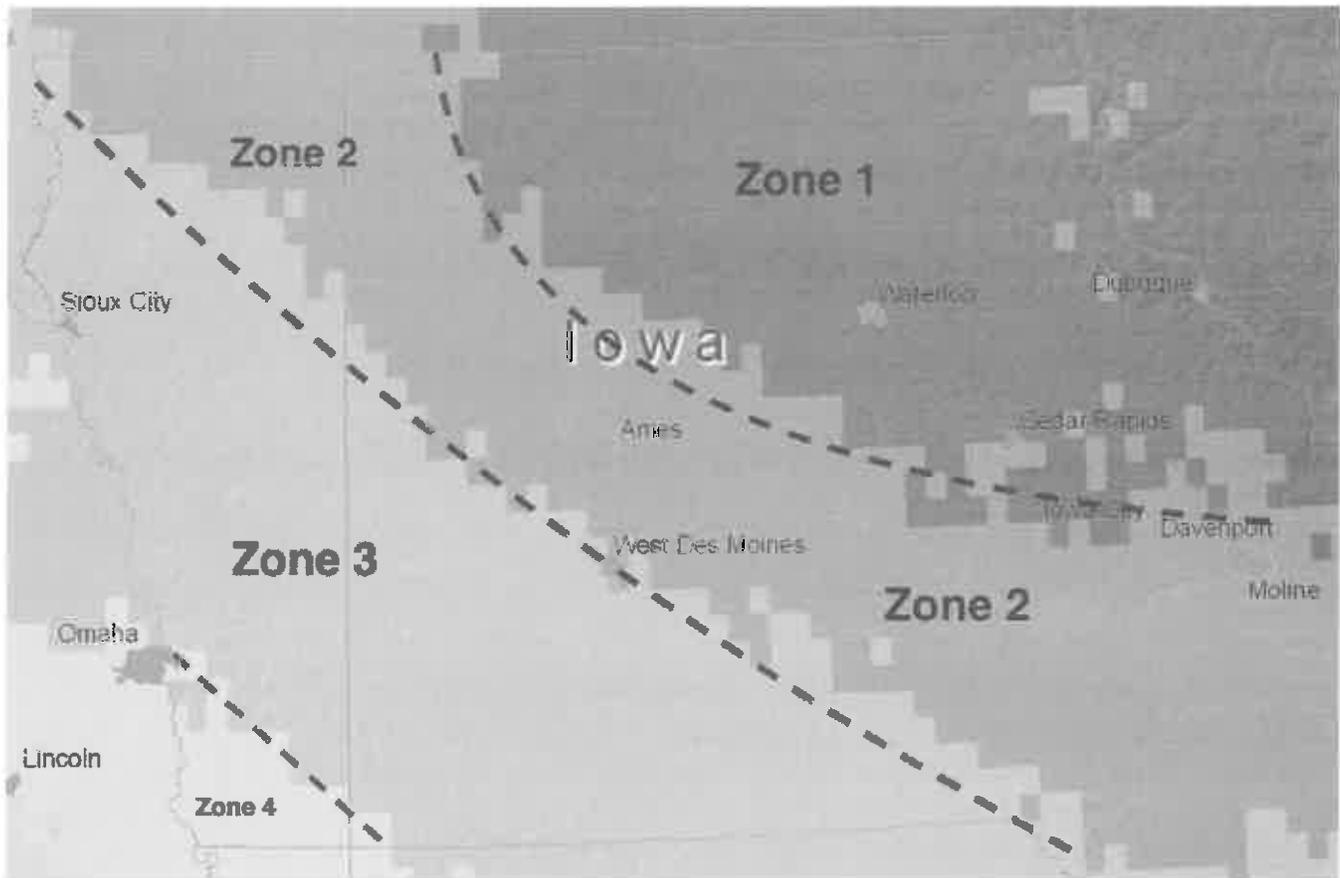
For example, 20 panels, at 250 watts each, would be a 5-kW system. But how much energy could this produce in kWhs, over the course of a year?

To calculate this — once you have identified a site, taken its measurements, and thought about suitable panel and wattage configurations — you will need to consider three additional factors that impact the possible productivity of any solar system:

- Geographical location
- The cardinal direction in which the solar system is placed
- The angle or pitch of the surface upon which the solar panels are placed

Geographical Location

Geographical location is the variable over which landowners have the least control, but within Iowa this does not much matter. Iowa can be roughly divided into three “solar intensity zones,” with solar production increasing as one moves from east to west. The figure below shows regions.



PVWatts® is a predictive tool available through the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (<http://pvwatts.nrel.gov/index.php>). It uses data from the most accurate Level 2 weather stations located at airports Waterloo, Des Moines and Sioux City for Zones 1, 2 and 3, respectively, and can be used to calculate solar potential.

The chart below, calculated using PVWatts, shows the probable number of kWhs that can be obtained from 1kW of solar energy for each of Iowa’s three solar zones, given an ideal pitch (30 degree from the horizontal) and direction (south-facing) of panels. (Direction and pitch are discussed below.) This can be referred to as the “solar intensity” for that zone. The higher the intensity figure, the more electricity can be produced from the same number of solar panels.

<u>Location</u>	<u>kWh produced by 1 kW</u>
Waterloo, Mason City, Mount Vernon and the Northeast	1,350 per year
Fort Dodge, Des Moines, Ottumwa	1,400
Western Iowa	1,425

PVWatts can also be used to predict the number of kW, and thus kWhs, produced in a given year. Located in Zone 1, calculations suggest that the 6 kW system installed on the roof in the pictures above would produce 8,100 kWhs in a normal year. The same system in Zone 2 or 3 would produce slightly more.⁴ These differences are small: all areas of Iowa will produce nearly the same electricity from the same size panel.

Panel Direction

In Iowa, panel direction is more significant than region. In the simplest terms, the direction that produces the most kWhs for any solar system is due south. Everything else being equal, a completely south-facing solar system is guaranteed to be able to absorb the most solar radiation and the highest amount of peak solar intensity from sunrise to sunset each day of the year. However, as a rule of thumb anywhere in Iowa, the kWh produced from 1 kW of solar is nearly always greater than 1000 kWh as long as the panels are not facing in a northerly direction.

The hypothetical solar system that will be used from this point forward is a 5 kW system pitched at 30 degrees in the Des Moines metro area. The first table demonstrates the advantage of direction. It shows that panels facing due east (90 degrees), due south (180 degrees), and due west (270 degrees).

East-Facing	kWh	South-Facing	kWh	West-Facing	kWh
Jan	275	Jan	460	Jan	278
Feb	349	Feb	525	Feb	366
March	500	March	616	March	475
Apr	591	Apr	652	Apr	575
May	666	May	709	May	685
June	717	June	726	June	716
July	738	July	762	July	737
Aug	644	Aug	686	Aug	616
Sept	500	Sept	604	Sept	500
Oct	391	Oct	549	Oct	390
Nov	249	Nov	396	Nov	254
Dec	232	Dec	386	Dec	223
Total	5852	Total	7071	Total	5815

Total kWh produced from east- and west-facing solar systems closely resemble each other. A south-facing solar array at this location and angle is projected to produce 20.8 percent more than east-facing array, and 21.6 percent more than a west-facing array. Generally panels will be built facing south, southwest, or southeast.

Another consideration for orienting panels is what time of day power is most needed. West-facing panels will produce more of their smaller total power later in the day than will south facing panels. Since most electric utility providers in Iowa have peak demand on their system later in the afternoon, the utility company might prefer that a solar system be adapted (i.e. sited southwest) to produce electricity when it is needed most. If the utility is willing to compensate the solar owner for the decrease in kWh production as compared to a directly south-facing panel, the solar owner might want to consider adapting the system to the utility provider's needs.

Pitch

Another important factor in determining overall solar production of any system is the pitch, or tilt, of the surface upon which the solar panels rest relative to the horizontal.

The optimum pitch to maximize energy production for almost all arrays across Iowa is 37 degrees. This is close to the latitude on the globe where Iowa is found (between roughly 40.6 in the south and 43.4 degrees north).⁵ At steeper, or more shallow, angles the productivity of solar decreases. It is important to note however that the decrease in production is not uniform or linear; steeper pitched solar panels see less of a decrease than do solar panels pitched a lower angle.⁶ Additionally, this rule *only* applies to solar systems that are facing directly south, showing that the direction in which the solar array faces is the most important.

To illustrate the impact of solar panel pitch, the charts and graphs below show the impact of differing pitches. Again, two of the three important parameters of location (central Iowa) and array direction (180 degrees) are held constant. The following graph is for a 5 kW solar array.

30 degrees	kWh	10 degrees	kWh	45 degrees	kWh
Jan	459	Jan	344	Jan	512
Feb	524	Feb	423	Feb	564
March	616	March	552	March	624
Apr	652	Apr	635	Apr	627
May	707	May	725	May	658
June	724	June	761	June	662
July	759	July	787	July	701
Aug	685	Aug	680	Aug	651
Sept	604	Sept	557	Sept	602
Oct	548	Oct	457	Oct	580
Nov	396	Nov	306	Nov	436
Dec	386	Dec	284	Dec	434
Total	7,060	Total	6,511	Total	7,051

Compared with changing of the direction in which the solar array faces, changing the pitch of the array does not have as large an impact. The standard pitch of 30 degrees harvests 8.4 percent more energy than a system at 10 degrees, but only 0.1 percent more than a system pitched at 45 degrees. Therefore, in general, a solar array pitched between 30 and 45 degrees can be relied upon to produce sufficient electricity for a respectable return on investment.

Again this analysis looks at the needs of the solar producer who will prefer to maximize the number of kWhs since that is what he/she will be paid for. More electricity will be produced during the summer because there are more sunlight hours and this is generally when Alliant Energy and most Iowa electric utility companies will want the production. Solar systems are adaptable and, if the receiving utility is willing to pay for reorienting the direction or slope of the system, it can be arranged in the contract to purchase.

Government and Private Financial Incentives

The amount of electricity a system can produce is one criteria; cost to install that system is another. Costs have been falling and incentives to build a system in Iowa have been strengthened in recent years.

Tax Credits

Solar energy systems carry a substantial upfront cost. For most people, the idea of purchasing 25 years of energy in advance requires a different sort of thinking than continuing to pay a monthly bill. Policymakers at the federal level, and here in Iowa, have created financial incentives to reward individuals, governments and companies for installing solar systems. These incentives have been tremendously successful over the past several years.

Federal Solar Provisions: The Residential Renewable Energy Tax Credit (RRETC) has been around since its introduction in the U.S. Energy Policy Act of 2005. It was greatly enhanced and expanded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA — also known as the federal stimulus package). This investment credit allows individuals and also businesses to take up to 30 percent of the cost of the solar system against their individual or corporate income taxes. This means that a \$100,000 business solar project qualifies for \$30,000 in federal income tax credits, or a \$25,000 individual system qualifies for \$7,500 in tax credits. This tax credit is non-refundable, but any excess credits may be carried forward in a future tax year. The credit was extended for five years in December 2015.

Iowa Solar Provisions: Iowa has several positive and substantial provisions supporting the widespread adoption of solar. First, Iowa also has a corporate and personal income tax credit program, called the Iowa Solar Energy System Tax Credit⁷, which operates in combination with the federal program. Unlike the federal tax credit, the Iowa incentive has a total cap on the amount the state can expend in any one year. The initial cap was easily reached so the amount was increased twice and now stands at \$5 million. A bill was proposed to increase the cap to \$7.5 million in the 2016 legislative session but it was not adopted. In addition to expanding the cap twice, Iowa lawmakers increased the state credit from 50 percent to 60 percent of the federal credit, making it effectively 18 percent of the total cost of the solar system. For each homeowner, the cap is \$5,000. For companies the credit limit is \$20,000.⁸

Supplemental Support for Solar

Iowa allows exemption of any additional property taxes brought about by the increased value to a property with a solar energy system for a period of five years. This can be a boon to property owners.⁹ Interestingly, this law has been in effect for several decades, and was one of the first pieces of legislation in the country hoping to usher in the age of renewable power in 1978.

In 2006, Iowa made all components, sales work, installation work and all other services performed to install and service solar panel systems free from all sales tax obligations. Assuming a competitive installer industry, some part will be passed on to create another saving to solar consumers.

Businesses can utilize these credits and depreciate the investment that remains after the credits. That and special enhancements from the U.S. Department of Agriculture for farm operations explains why many agricultural buildings have adopted solar in Iowa.

Finally, nonprofit organizations including cities, counties and school districts cannot directly apply for tax credits since these entities do not pay taxes. However, private, for-profit investors can develop a project, or arrangements can be made to transfer ownership of solar systems sited on non-profit entity property to those who could benefit from a tax subsidy. After the 10 years of credits are gleaned the contract arrangement will provide that the system be sold back to the city

or school. This is the one way that non-taxpaying entities can be part of a solar revolution that is mainly supported by tax credits.

The Impacts of State Mandates and Utility Policy

In most states including Iowa, the company supplying electricity is a monopoly. One company has the exclusive right to sell electricity in an area of the state and it is the only possible purchaser of solar power generated in that area. Because of that economic arrangement, federal energy legislation from the Carter Administration required utilities to purchase renewable energy offered them. Furthermore, Iowa legislation from 1983 required that the utility pay the same price for renewable-sourced electricity as the utility itself could produce the power from a new plant of its own. Following that law, rules set by the Iowa Utility Board required that renewable electricity produced by any entity would get the same price for renewable power as the utility charged the consumer for electricity. The utility would have to, in effect, “run the meter backwards” when accounting for the power produced by a customer.

Net Metering

Net metering is a billing mechanism required by the state of Iowa for Alliant Energy and MidAmerican Energy, the state's only investor-owned electric utilities (IOUs). Net metering has been adopted in nearly all states in some form. Net metering encourages customers to size systems to meet annual load but little more. In addition to the tax benefits documented above, net metering is the economic driver that makes solar power a good investment.¹⁰ Since more than 72 percent of all Iowans are served by either Mid-American Energy or Alliant Energy¹¹, and this analysis applies to Mount Vernon, we examine how Alliant net meters.

Net Metering According to Iowa's IOUs

Both Mid-American Energy and Alliant net meter over the course of a calendar year. If there is a surplus at the end of any month, credit for those kWh “pushed forward” to be applied to subsequent month's consumption. If, at the end of the year, owners' solar systems have produced more electricity than they used, a kWh credit is pushed into the next year. It is therefore not in the interest of consumers to invest in a solar system that far exceeds their need for electricity on an annual basis. In Iowa, one cannot just “make money” on solar by building a system that can claim retail rates on amounts far in excess of what a property will use.

An Iowa Example

The Des Moines metro area is served exclusively by Mid-American Energy, thus any solar system installed in this area must follow the net metering policies of Mid-American. The following analysis would be similar in Alliant Energy's territory.

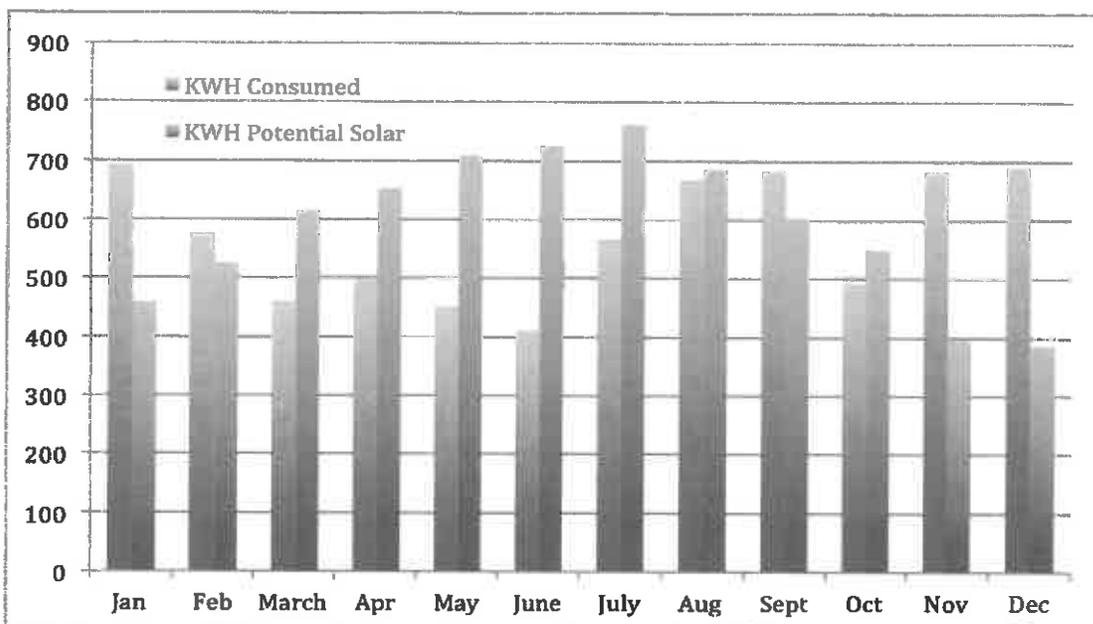
The following chart shows a Mid-American customer's 2014 usage assuming they install a 5 kW solar system. (In a house with two adults and two children, the customer in this example is very judicious with their energy use and thus consuming roughly 62 percent of the average for the average Iowa customer.¹²)

2014	kWh Consumed	kWh Potential Solar	Difference	% Reduction	Deficit / Surplus?
Jan	693	460	-233	66%	Deficit
Feb	575	525	-50	91%	Deficit
March	459	616	157	134%	Surplus
Apr	495	652	157	132%	Surplus
May	451	709	258	157%	Surplus
June	410	726	316	177%	Surplus
July	567	762	195	134%	Surplus
Aug	668	686	18	103%	Surplus
Sept	683	604	-79	88%	Deficit
Oct	491	549	58	112%	Surplus
Nov	682	396	-286	58%	Deficit
Dec	689	386	-303	56%	Deficit
Total	6863	7071	208	103%	Surplus

Assuming 2014 was a normal year for this customer and if this house has a perfectly south facing roof, pitched at 30 degrees, with no obstructions, a solar system of 5 KW in size would produce on average 103 percent of annual electrical needs.¹³

On a monthly basis, this household would realize savings in their energy charges by the amount found in the column “% Reduction.” At the very end and very beginning of the year, there would be deficits (as there are fewer sun hours). In the spring, summer and fall, this system is large enough to generate more than is needed by the household. That energy flows onto the Mid-American grid (supplying power to immediate neighbors), and a “credit” is created on the customer’s account. In the later part of the year, these credits are applied to the customer’s bill and make up for the shortfall in production of the solar system, and “zero out” deficits in September, November and December. Even with the yearly excess eliminated, there are still left over “credits” totaling 208 kWhs. These kWh credits would be applied to the next year to be used during the winter period.

The following chart describes the same data in graphic terms.



New Meter Costs

When a property owner installs a solar energy generation system in Iowa, regardless of which utility they have, the existing device on their property is undoubtedly a uni-directional meter that can only measure how much energy the customer consumes. For net metering purposes a new meter must be installed that is bi-directional for measuring the two-way flow of electricity.

For Mid-American and Alliant customers, the new meter comes at no additional cost.¹⁴ Both IOUs do however impose a \$50 application fee to start the interconnection process.

Return on a Solar Investment

While an economist would describe the decision to go solar as a net return on the invested capital, many like to calculate the years to pay for the investment. In our example, a homeowner can expect to recoup the investment in a solar system in 8-10 years. Because of more favorable tax arrangements and the expected larger system size, a business can recoup the investment in as little as 3-5 years. For a nonprofit entity, the third party arrangement determines the return on the public investment. The following parameters determine the value of the investment.

Parameters:

- 2016 Average annual Utility Rate
- Annual utility electricity price increase
- Property electricity consumption
- Solar depreciation per year: Net Metering Policy
- Solar Array direction and pitch
- Tax Credits to apply: 30 percent federal; 18 percent Iowa
- Price of installed solar
- Solar array size

Individual Solar Systems, Community Solar and City Government

The Mount Vernon Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC) of the Mt. Vernon City Council has expressed interest in making approval of individual solar systems in the city easier. The SAC also recommends two types of solar systems be investigated by the city.

Possible changes in net metering rules in Iowa

Current action before the Iowa Utilities Board (IUB), Iowa's regulator of utilities, makes our recommendations critical. The IUB is considering potential revisions to net metering policy. In 2015, Alliant and MidAmerican tried to overturn the net metering policy first set forth in the state in the 1980s.¹⁵ While the first IUB order in October of 2015 seemed positive to retain net metering, Alliant's proposal to enhance distributed generation in their service territory as ordered by the IUB is anything but. As stated in their March 2016 pilot program required by the IUB order, Alliant continued to propose to weaken net metering while, at the same time, it agreed to enhance solar energy with an unspecified pilot program for Community Energy.¹⁶ There is, now, a possibility that the IUB may move to weaken current net metering standards. This instability is one of the major benefits of installing solar now.

It is not just in Iowa. A solar advocacy group has documented that no fewer than 46 states considered changes in how consumer-owned solar is treated in 2015.¹⁷ At the behest of their companies, Nevada rolled back net metering. The California regulatory commission voted to keep its present system and New York state greatly expanded consumer-owned solar. Thus, utility companies are not always successful in their attack on customer-produced solar.

Individual solar systems

The authors know of one solar array installed at a residential property in the City of Mount Vernon. The experience of this installation in 2013 demonstrates the process needs improvement. Zoning Administrator Matt Siders informed the owners of the system after it was ready to produce power, that a conditional use permit was required for installing an “Alternative Energy Production Device” in a TR zone in the city. The need for such a conditional use permit required the owners to go first to the Planning and Zoning Commission, and after their approval, participate in a hearing before the Board of Adjustments.¹⁸ Only after these approvals could the solar system be switched on. From the time that the owners found such a conditional use permit was required to its completion took approximately five weeks.

The SAB recommends the city change the city ordinance to distinguish solar panels on a rooftop from “solar Collector fields” to make the process of installation easier. We believe this change will speed up the process, make solar adoption more encouraging and enhance the sustainability of the city.

Community Solar

Solar units are getting cheaper. Still many individual residences may be unsuitable locations inhibited by shade, or with less than desirable orientation to the sun. In addition not all homeowners will be adept at maintaining such systems. Community Solar is a solution. A single array of many panels can be sited at the best location in a community and maintained by skilled staff people.

Minnesota has passed legislation to require utility companies to hook up to community solar gardens and give individual owners credits on their utility bill similar to what would take place if the panels were installed on homes. The new law has led to a number of cities and companies becoming involved in new projects, termed solar gardens.¹⁹

In 2015, the Iowa Legislature and Governor began to experiment with community solar. The new law gave a production tax credit as an incentive for up to 10 Megawatts of community solar installed by municipal utilities or Rural Electric Cooperatives. (The law change did not include IOUs, individuals or private developers.) The city of Cedar Falls has embraced community and has recently completed a 1.5 MW solar array with investments from the city, the University of Northern Iowa and 1,250 individual customers of the municipal utility.^{20 21} The garden was built over the winter of 2015-16 and began to generate electricity in April 2016. This project took advantage of the 10 MW of state incentives that were taken up very quickly after the law was passed. The speed of that uptake may mean more incentives may come in future legislative sessions.

Alliant’s proposed a pilot Community Solar program to the IUB as part of the plan to eliminate net metering for customers. In the latest Alliant Energy News,²² the company states that “Our community solar program will help customers get the benefits from solar energy through larger-

scale systems that we manage.” The SAC request that the City approach Alliant Energy immediately to inquire of Alliant about Community Solar in our city.

Solar for City Buildings

Sustainability is important for the City of Mount Vernon and one example is the empaneling of the SAC. The City of Mount Vernon is a large consumer of electricity and so can build a solar system that takes advantage of economies of scale in construction, just like community solar can. While that is so, the city may pay electric rates lower than commercial or residential customers, which might make the incentives to install somewhat less.

The recent Iowa Supreme Court case *Eagle Point Solar v. Iowa Interstate Power*²³ determined that a city can contract with a third party and share in the benefits of tax credits even though they are not directly available to the city. The city of Lisbon has begun the process of contracting for a solar system on a municipal building.²⁴ The SAC requests the City investigate the feasibility of adding a solar system to a city building and to request proposals from developers to build that system. SAC members will volunteer to be part of this discussion.

Conclusion

The fundamentals of solar continue to improve. Solar system components and installation costs are continuing to drop²⁵, energy prices in Iowa have been steadily but moderately increasing^{26,27} in December 2015 the federal solar investment credit was extended for five years, and there may soon be changes in utility Iowa’s net metering policy.

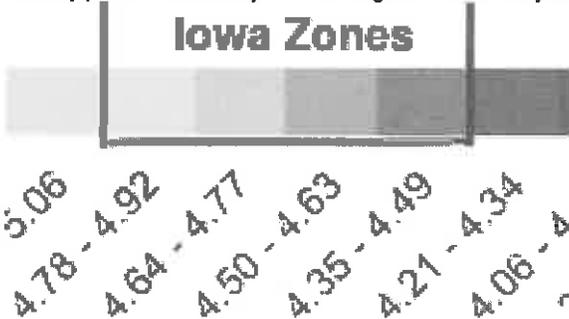
By compiling an examination of installing solar electric generating systems, this report was designed to offer interested citizens and City of Mount Vernon decision makers a comprehensive view of the current state of solar in Iowa. Solar power is well-positioned to continue supplying jobs, bringing stability to energy prices, providing long-term savings, helping to diversify and thereby strengthen the electric grid, and contributing to the environmental health of our city, state and of the world for decades to come.

¹ Robert Walton. Solar and Wind comprise 61% of 2015 energy pcapacity additions, gas comprises 35%. UtilityDrive. January 2016. <http://www.utilitydive.com/news/solar-and-wind-comprise-61-of-2015-capacity-additions-gas-contributes-35/411813/>

² http://www.eia.gov/energy_in_brief/article/renewable_electricity.cfm

³ City of Mount Vernon Iowa. 2016 Comprehensive Plan. Page 42.

⁴ Figure 2 is a section of the legend for the national map from which Figure 1 was excerpted. It shows the level of potential energy (in KWH) that could be captured in one day from one square meter of solar collectors that were facing due south and pitched at an angle equal to local latitude. According to this national map from NREL⁴, it is fairly clear to see that there are three primary zones for solar in the state, unless one is in the far southwestern counties, where a small fourth zone exists. The lines on the map are drawn as dotted because the solar radiation changes gradually over large distances and areas close to the "borders" of these regions may find their solar systems actually perform differently from the region in which they are supposed to be located.



⁵ Found via <http://www.latlong.net>. Date accessed: July 8, 2015.

⁶ <https://www.energysage.com/solar/101/impact-of-roof-angle> Date accessed: July 8, 2015.

⁷ Iowa Code 422.33.29.a and 422.60.12.a

⁸ <https://iaenvironment.wordpress.com/2015/06/26/a-win-for-solar-energy-in-iowa/>

⁹ <http://programs.dsireusa.org/system/program/detail/184>

¹⁰ Iowa Code 476.43

¹¹ <https://iub.iowa.gov/electric-profile>. Date Accessed: July 1, 2015

¹² http://www.eia.gov/electricity/sales_revenue_price/pdf/table5_a.pdf. Date Accessed: July 19, 2015

¹³ Solar panels come in many different wattages, and while a system could possibly be engineered to produce no surplus power, a bit of surplus capacity is a good thing in case there are many more cloudy or snowy days in a year than on average.

¹⁴ Neither the MidAmerican "Distributed Generation Basics FAQ" nor the MidAmerican Energy "Level 1 Interconnection Agreement" make any mention of any fees for a new meter. For Alliant Energy, the "Level 1 Application and Interconnection Agreement" makes no mention of fees for a new meter; Alliant's website "Customer owned Generation in Iowa" also has no mention of any meter fees.

¹⁵ <http://www.alliantenergy.com/AboutAlliantEnergy/EnvironmentalCommitment/CustomerOwnedGeneration/029969> Date Accessed: July 16, 2015.

¹⁶ Submitted comment to the Iowa Utilities Board. In Re: Distributed Generation Docket NO: NOI-2014-001 ELPC, et. al. July 15, 2015.

¹⁷ In Re: Distributed Generation Docket NO: NOI-2014-001 Interstate Power and Light March 28, 2016

¹⁸ Katherine Tweed. 46 States Took Policy Action on Solar in 2015. Greentechmedia. February 2015.

¹⁹ <http://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/read/46-states-took-policy-action-on-solar-in-2015>

²⁰ Email from City of Mt. Vernon Deputy Clerk Marsha Dewell contains the minutes of the meetings of the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Board of Adjustment.

²¹ Devine, D. Scandia officials embrace solar garden project. Pioneer Press. January 12, 2016

²² Cedar Falls utilities. Simple Solar. <https://www.cfu.net/save-energy/simple-solar/>

²³ Pat Kinney. Cedar Falls solar garden grows. Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier. February 11, 2016 http://wccourier.com/news/local/cedar-falls-solar-garden-grows/article_f73a9d9a-83e1-5674-b026-6643fcc39298.html

²⁴ Alliant Energy. Alliant Energy News. Volume 20, Issue 4

²³ Karen Uhlenhuth. Iowa Supreme Court rules in favor of third party solar. Midwest Energy News July 11, 2014.
<http://midwestenergynews.com/2014/07/11/iowa-supreme-court-rules-in-favor-of-third-party-solar/>

²⁴ Jim Bonewasd. Solar power on the table, funding an issue. Mount Vernon Lisbon Sun
April 08, 2016.

²⁵ <http://costofsolar.com/cost-of-solar-panels-10-charts-tell-you-everything/>. Date Accessed: July 5th, 2015.

²⁶ <http://www.midamericanenergy.com/iowarates.aspx>. Date Accessed: July 19, 2015.

²⁷ <http://thegazette.com/2014/02/28/midamerican-rate-increase-approved-by-iowa-utilities-board>. Date Accessed: July 19, 2015.

D. Consent Agenda

The Mount Vernon City Council met June 6, 2016 at the Mount Vernon City Hall Council Chambers with the following members present: Roudabush, Wieseler, Christensen and Tuerler. Absent: Rose.

Call to Order At 6:32 p.m. Mayor Jamie A. Hampton called the meeting to order.

Agenda Additions/Agenda Approval. Hampton said there would not be anyone in attendance to speak from the Sustainability Committee. Motion made by Tuerler, seconded by Wieseler to approve agenda. Carried all. Rose absent.

Consent Agenda

Approval of City Council Minutes – May 6, 2016 Regular Council Meeting

Approval of Liquor License – Heritage Days (amended map)

Approval of Liquor License – Chameleons Pub and Grill

Approval of Cigarette Permit – Casey's

Approval of Fireworks Permit – Heritage Days

Tuerler asked about the approval of the amended map for Heritage Days. Nobsisch explained that the committee was adding the old fire station to use for staging alumni. Police Chief Shannon had concerns about the space between the two areas but was ok with the addition. Motion by Tuerler, seconded by Roudabush to approve the Consent Agenda. Carried all. Rose absent.

Public Hearing

Public Hearing on Ordinance to Amend Chapter 15 Mayor of the City of Mt. Vernon Municipal Code
Close Public Hearing – proceed to F-1. Mayor Hampton declared the Public Hearing open. As there were no comments from the public Mayor Hampton closed the Public Hearing.

Rose arrives at 6:40 p.m.

Public Hearing on Ordinance to Amend Chapter 17 Council of the City of Mt. Vernon Municipal Code
Close Public Hearing – proceed to F-2. Mayor Hampton declared the Public Hearing open. Resident Francesca Thompson asked for an explanation of the ordinance. Nobsisch explained that this will remove the appointed positions of Parks and Recreation Director, Public Works Director and Wastewater Superintendent from the Council ordinance over to Administrator ordinance and moves the appointment of the City Treasurer and City Attorney from the Mayor ordinance to Council ordinance. As there were no further comments from the public Mayor Hampton closed the Public Hearing.

Public Hearing on Ordinance to Amend Chapter 21 Administrator of the City of Mt. Vernon Municipal Code
Close Public Hearing – proceed to F-3. Mayor Hampton declared the Public Hearing open. Nobsisch explained that this gives the supervisory duties that were taken from the Mayor ordinance and puts it under the Administrator ordinance. It does exempt the Police Chief and members of the Police Department. It does give the Administrator the ability to discipline employees but cannot hire or fire department heads without City Council approval. As there were no comments from the public Mayor Hampton closed the Public Hearing.

Public Hearing on Ordinance to Amend Chapter 92 Water Rates of the City of Mt. Vernon Municipal Code

Close Public Hearing – proceed to F-4. Mayor Hampton declared the Public Hearing open. As there were no comments from the public Mayor Hampton closed the Public Hearing.

Ordinance Approval/Amendment

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 15 Mayor of the City of Mt. Vernon Municipal Code

Motion to approve first reading and proceed with second reading/or suspend rules and proceed to third and final reading. Nobsisch explained that this process started when there were discussions about department head contracts. Currently, in each contract, it states that the department heads answer to the Administrator, Mayor and City Council. This ordinance takes out a section of supervisory duties of day to day operations of employees out of the Mayor ordinance and adds it to the City Administrator. It also takes out the appointment of City Attorney and City Treasurer and moves that to the City Council ordinance. Rose questioned why the Chief of Police was excluded from this ordinance. Nobsisch said typically the Police Chief continues to answer to the Mayor unless there are issues amongst staff and cooperation, which we do not have. It is more of the norm for the Police Chief and City Administrator to be the two contract employees. Nobsisch has seen the Chief Police placed under the City Administrator but does not feel it is necessary. Tuerler believes in a City of our size with the duties of the City Administrator and a police force of our size, it makes sense to have that separation of duties from a management perspective. Adding that burden to the City Administrator is not a wise one. Christensen had a different opinion and felt that the City Administrator could be a better coach in terms of the elements of management and help strengthen the managerial skill of those people that also serve as managers within the organization. For that reason, it seems to him that the City Administrator having managerial responsibilities over all managers helps ensure the City has the best possible practice of the managerial elements of those jobs. Nobsisch said it was something that could be looked at if the Council would like but would like to do it independently of these changes and have an opportunity to do more research and speak to the Police Chief. Another point that Tuerler made was that law enforcement was a very specialized function within any organization and cautioned of over burdening the City Administrator where there may be a more functional way to do it. He would be open to learning more about this but would like to move forward with these changes tonight. Motion made by Rose, seconded by Christensen to approve the first reading Ordinance Amending Chapter 15 Mayor of the City of Mt. Vernon Municipal Code and move to the second reading. Seconded by Christensen. Roll call vote. Motion passes 5-0.

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 17 Council of the City of Mt. Vernon Municipal Code

Motion to approve first reading and proceed with second reading/or suspend rules and proceed to third and final reading. Motion made by Tuerler, seconded by Wieseler to approve the first reading of Ordinance Amending Chapter 17 Council of the City of Mt. Vernon Municipal Code and move to the second reading. Seconded by Wieseler. Roll call vote. Motion passes 5-0.

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 21 Administrator of the City of Mt. Vernon Municipal Code

Motion to approve first reading and proceed with second reading/or suspend rules and proceed to third and final reading. Motion made by Christensen, seconded by Rose to approve the first reading of Ordinance Amending Chapter 21 Administrator of the City of Mt. Vernon Municipal Code. Roll call vote. Motion passes 5-0.

An Ordinance Amending Chapter 92 Water Rates of the City of Mt. Vernon Municipal Code

Motion to approve first reading and proceed with second reading/or suspend rules and proceed to third and final reading. City Administrator Nobsisch explained that water and sewer rates both go up 3 percent each year. If we move forward with water treatment plant improvements the water rates will need to be raised by 4 percent to 5 percent in addition to that. The plan would be to put the additional 5 percent in place for the life of the bond. Nobsisch said he could live with either 4 percent or 5 percent, but 5 percent would give a little breathing room in order to meet the bond payment, if water billing amounts vary. The 5 percent

increase could possibly bring in an additional \$48,000 and would apply to water rates only. Motion made by Tuerler, seconded by Wieseler to approve the first reading of Ordinance Amending Chapter 92 Water Rates of the City of Mt. Vernon Municipal Code. Roll call. Motion passes 5-0.

Resolutions for Approval

Resolution Approving Transfers to the General Fund and Cemetery Perpetual Care. Nobsisch said these are annual transfers from special revenue accounts to the general fund to defray costs. Motion made by Christensen, seconded by Tuerler to approve Resolution 6-6-2016A. Roll call vote. Motion passes 5-0.

Resolution Approving a Perpetual Easement Agreement for Fiber Optic and Conduit Cable Between the City of Mt. Vernon, Iowa and ImOn Communications, LLC. Nobsisch explained that ImOn Communications will be placing fiber optic and conduit cable coming from Iowa City, through Solon to Mount Vernon and to Marion. The route and agreement have been reviewed by the City Engineer and Public Works Director. ImOn will run some conduit while they are in the area to connect some of the City infrastructure and it will be an opportunity for the City to make connections in the future if they choose to. Wieseler asked whose responsibility it was to take these out once they are no longer in use. Nobsisch said typically they are abandoned. ImOn currently provides services to Cornell College. Motion made by Tuerler, seconded by Rose to approve Resolution 6-6-2016B. Roll call vote. Motion passes 5-0

Resolution Approving the 2016 Mt. Vernon Sealcoat Project. Nobsisch explained that staff has identified maintenance projects, one of them being sealcoat on approximately 6,456 feet of streets. There is one trail section and a couple of alleys. The alleys are only being completed because of the steep elevation changes and the rock that is deposited onto City streets after rain events. Money will be pulled from three funds to pay for this and the work will be completed in August. Literature will be provided to residents prior to the start of work. Motion made by Roudabush, seconded by Tuerler to approve Resolution 6-6-2016C for the amount of \$48,733.85. Roll call vote. Motion passes 5-0.

Resolution Accepting the 2015 Sanitary Sewer Improvements as Substantially Complete and Preparing to Release the Project Retainage. Nobsisch stated that the total amount for this contract ended up being \$245,428.86. Council needs to approve these improvements and adopt them as substantially complete before they can make the formal request for payment. The City Engineer is comfortable with the improvements and staff is recommending that the City accept the improvements. Motion made by Rose, seconded by Wieseler to approve Resolution 6-6-2016D. Roll call vote. Motion passes 5-0.

Motions for Approval

Consideration of Claims List – Motion to Approve. Motion made by Rose, seconded by Christensen to approve claims list. Carried all.

ALLIANT IES UTILITIES	ENERGY USAGE-SEW	3,593.55
ALLIANT IES UTILITIES	ENERGY USAGE-WAT	563.93
ALLIANT IES UTILITIES	ENERGY USAGE-ST LIGHTS	51.14
ALLIANT IES UTILITIES	ENERGY USAGE-ST LIGHTS	51.06
ALLIANT IES UTILITIES	ENERGY USAGE-SEW	29.44
ALLIANT IES UTILITIES	ENERGY USAGE-P&REC	27.57
ALLIANT IES UTILITIES	ENERGY USAGE-WAT	19.79
ALLIANT IES UTILITIES	ENERGY USAGE-WAT	18.09
ALLIANT IES UTILITIES	ENERGY USAGE-WAT	10.01
APPARATUS TESTING SERVICES LLC	FIRE PUMP CERTIFICATION-FD	375.00
AUTO WORX	EXHAUST HANGER-PD	111.44
BALICEK, RITA	CLEANING SERVICE-PD,P&A	75.00
BALICEK, RITA	CLEANING SERVICE-PD,P&A	75.00
BANKERS TRUST	LONG TERM DEBT PAYMENTS-JUNE	1,190,675.00

BARNYARD SCREENPRINTING	T-SHIRTS-P&REC	2,248.00
BAUMAN AND COMPANY	UNIFORMS-PW	322.80
BENHART, SHERRIE	CLEANING SERVICE-PD,P&A	75.00
BENHART, SHERRIE	CLEANING SERVICE-PD,P&A	75.00
BOREN, DEREK	ASST FIRE CHIEF PAY	87.50
BRADLEY HAUGE CPA	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES-P&A	1,165.00
BRIDGE COMMUNITY BANK	2010B GO REFUNDING NOTE-BOND PYMT	25,459.00
BROWNELLS INC	EQUIPMENT-PD	964.77
BURROUGHS, RICHARD	CEMETERY MAINT	2,275.00
CAMPBELL SUPPLY CEDAR RAPIDS	GLOVES-PW	247.80
CAMPBELL SUPPLY CEDAR RAPIDS	SAFETY VESTS-PW	176.00
CAMPBELL SUPPLY CEDAR RAPIDS	GLOVES-RUT	28.00
CARQUEST OF LISBON	VEHICLE MAINT-PW	158.50
CENTRAL IOWA DISTRIBUTING	SOAP-ALL DEPTS	133.60
CENTURY LINK	PHONE CHGS-P&A	479.90
CENTURY LINK	PHONE CHGS-POLICE	102.79
CENTURY LINK	PHONE CHGS-WAT	50.03
CENTURY LINK	PHONE CHGS-RUT	48.03
CENTURY LINK	PHONE CHGS-POOL	28.28
COGRAN SYSTEMS	ONLINE REGISTRATION-P&REC	274.00
COMPASS BUSINESS SOLUTIONS	UTILITY BILLS-WAT,SEW,SW	799.80
COMPASS BUSINESS SOLUTIONS	REMINDER NOTICES/1,000-WAT,SEW	111.80
CURTIS ENGLISH	PORTABLE RR RENTALS-P&REC	570.00
CUSTOM HOSE & SUPPLIES INC	HYDROSEED REPAIR-PW	91.20
DES MOINES STAMP	STAMPS-ALL DEPTS	188.15
DIESEL TURBO SERVICES INC	F450/HUB & BEARING-PW	3,598.23
ELECTRIC PUMP	T.C.L.S. REPAIR-SEW	9,082.84
ELECTRIC PUMP	T.C.L.S. PUMP INSTALL-SEW	516.30
ERIE, JEREMY	FLOORING-POOL BOND	8,278.00
EVER-GREEN LANDSCAPE NURSERY	MULCH-RUT	230.00
FELD FIRE	HOSE/NOZZLE-FD	921.20
GARY'S FOODS	SUPPLIES-PD,P&REC,WAT	166.19
GORDON LUMBER COMPANY	BLDG SUPPLIES-ALL DEPTS	255.30
HAWKEYE FIRE & SAFETY CORP	EXTINGUISHER MAINT-ALL DEPTS	410.10
HAWKEYE READY MIX	CURB STOP REPAIR-WAT	261.85
HEARTSMART.COM	AED WALL CABINETS-ALL DEPTS	599.75
HORMANN, HUNTER	UMPIRE PAY-P&REC	25.00
IACMA	MEMBERSHIP-ALL DEPTS	150.00
ICAP	LIABILITY POLICY-FD	3,879.57
IMWCA	WORKER'S COMP INSURANCE -LEVY	78,723.95
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION	PAINT-RUT	1,135.82
IOWA PRISON INDUSTRIES	TRASH BAGS-PW	222.38
IOWA SOLUTIONS INC	FIREWALL,BACKUP ISSUES-PD	230.00
IOWA SOLUTIONS INC	DBR BACKUP-ALL DEPTS	330.00
KAY PARK RECREATION	PEDESTAL GRILL-P&REC	370.00
KIRK, BILL	UNIFORMS-PW	224.98
KIRKWOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE	TRAINING-FD	57.50
KONICA MINOLTA	MAINTENANCE PLAN/COPIES-PD	101.61
KONICA MINOLTA BUSINESS SOLUTIONS	MAINTENANCE PLAN/COPIES	466.83
KROUL FARM GARDENS	BEAUTIFICATION	572.00
KROUL FARM GARDENS	CEMETERY PLANTINGS-CEM	82.00
KROUL FARM GARDENS	FLOWER BOX-BEAUT	55.00
LANHAM, BRADY	WEATHER RESISTANT GFCI-P&REC	64.75
LINN CO-OP OIL CO	FUEL-PW	1,457.18
LINN COUNTY PLANNING & DEV	BLDG PERMIT FEES/INSPECTIONS	1,035.00

MARTINSON, NIKITA	DEPOSIT REFUND-WAT	55.77
MENARDS	COUNTER TOP-POOL	23.79
MIDWEST SAFETY COUNSELOR	INSTRUMENT CALIBRATION-FD	50.00
MOUNT VERNON ACE HARDWARE	SUPPLIES-ALL DEPTS	1,876.08
MOUNT VERNON BANK	NSF CHECK-WAT	155.00
MOUNT VERNON LISBON SUN	ADS/PUBLICATIONS-ALL DEPTS	1,569.01
MOUNT VERNON LISBON SUN	CTW ADS/PUBLICATIONS-P&REC	435.00
NEAL'S WATER CONDITIONING	WATER/SALT-RUT	36.50
NORTHWAY CORP	RECIRCULATION PUMP-POOL BOND	10,145.15
OFFICE OF VEHICLE SERVICES	VEHICLE INSPECTIONS-PD	70.00
PAYROLL	CLAIMS	61,227.73
PITNEY BOWES	SUPPLIES-P&A	91.77
PITNEY BOWES	POSTAGE METER RENTAL-ALL DEPTS	141.00
PLUMB SUPPLY CO	POOL MAINT-POOL	26.27
PLUMB SUPPLY CO	BLDG MAINT-POOL	102.20
POOL TECH INC	CHEMICALS-POOL	3,933.64
POOL TECH INC	CHEMICALS-POOL	187.40
PORTZEN CONSTRUCTION	WTP PROJECT	116,878.81
POSTMASTER	UTILITY BILLS-WAT,SEW,SW	366.01
RICKLEFS EXACAVATING	2015 STREET IMPROVEMENTS	54,771.68
RIPKE, SUE	MILEAGE-P&A	20.52
ROSENBAUER SOUTH DAKOTA LLC	VEHICLE REPAIR-FD	191.26
ROTO-ROOTER	IRON FILTER CLEANOUT-WTP	1,820.00
SAM'S CLUB	MEMBERSHIP,SUPPLIES-POOL	599.94
SAUTER BATY ASSOCIATES	CONCEPTUAL/PRELIMINARY DESIGN	3,510.00
SCHIMBERG COMPANY	POLY TUBING-RUT	24.49
SCHNEIDERMANN, JERRY	DEPOSIT REFUND -WAT	53.10
SECRETARY OF STATE	NOTARY PUBLIC RENEWAL-P&A	30.00
SI SENOR	CTW ENTRY FEE-P&REC	100.00
SIDERS, MATT	MILEAGE-P&REC	90.72
SIMMONS PERRINE MOYER BERGMAN	LEGAL FEES-P&A	1,863.00
SIMMONS PERRINE MOYER BERGMAN	LEGAL FEES-P&A	1,710.00
SITE ONE LANDSCAPE	GRASS SEED/5TH AVE PROJECT	206.84
STAPLES ADVANTAGE	REG ROLLS, FOLDERS-P&A	65.51
STAPLES ADVANTAGE	SUPPLIES-PW	123.81
STETSON BUILDING PRODUCTS INC	CAULK TOOLING KNIVES-RUT	64.97
STUDT, ROBERT	SEC/TREAS-FD	87.50
TASC	COBRA PLAN DOCUMENTS-ALL DEPTS	350.00
TASC	ADMIN FEE-ALL DEPTS	90.00
TRANS IOWA EQUIPMENT INC	PELICAN REPAIR-SW	1,585.22
TRAVER, DEAN	KMVL RENT	250.00
TRAVER, DEAN	KMVL RENT	250.00
TRAVER, DEAN	KMVL RENT	250.00
US BANK	CREDIT CARD CHARGES	2,961.01
US CELLULAR	CELL PHONE-ALL DEPTS	462.38
US CELLULAR	CELL PHONE-PD	116.17
USA BLUE BOOK	LABS-WAT	215.55
USA BLUE BOOK	LABS-WAT	117.37
VEENSTRA & KIMM INC	PRAIRIE PARK WTP FILTER REPLACEMENT	1,322.10
VEENSTRA & KIMM INC	CITY ENGINEERING GENERAL	1,053.00
VEENSTRA & KIMM INC	2015 STR IMPROVEMENTS GENERAL	934.00
VEENSTRA & KIMM INC	MUNICIPAL POOL IMPROVEMENTS	596.60
VEENSTRA & KIMM INC	WASTEWATER FACILITY PLAN	390.00
WALKER AG EQUIPMENT	EQUIP MAINT-RUT	1,046.71

WAPSI WASTE SERVICE	GB,RECY,LEAF-SW	22,533.87
WATER SOLUTIONS UNLIMITED INC	CHEMICALS-WAT	3,384.00
	TOTAL	1,645,951.75

Discussion and Consideration of Information Requests Policy – Council Action as Needed. This policy will help to re-coup staff time costs of records requests and help deter “frivolous” requests. Rose had concerns about specifically naming certain individuals in charge of the requests and suggested using job titles instead so that the policy does not need to be changed as employees change. Motion made by Rose, seconded by Wieseler to approve the Information Request Policy with the above mentioned changes. Carried all.

Discussion and Consideration of Website Policy – Council Action as Needed. Motion made by Tuerler, seconded by Christensen to approve Website Policy. Carried all.

Discussion and Consideration of Pay Application #2 – 2015 Sanitary Sewer Improvements – Council Action as Needed. This is the second pay application and Ricklefs will be requesting the retainage of \$12,000 in thirty days. Motion made by Christensen, seconded by Tuerler to approve Pay Application #2 in the amount of \$1,357.67. Carried all.

Discussion and Consideration of Quotes for Equipping the New Police Squad Vehicle – Council Action as Needed. Nobsch explained that Police Chief Shannon originally thought it would be in the \$8,000 range but he wanted to point out that the actual vehicle cost was reduced due to some wiring changes that were made. Motion made by Tuerler, seconded by Wieseler to approve the quote from Racom for equipping the new police vehicle. Carried all.

Discussion and Consideration of Setting Public Hearing Date for an Ordinance to Amend Chapter 5 Operating Procedures of the Mt. Vernon Municipal Code. Nobsch stated that chapter 5 is being amended to include three months severance for the Public Works Director, Finance/Deputy City Administrator, Water/Wastewater Superintendent and Parks and Recreation Director. This amendment along with a change to the personnel policy will allow the City to discontinue contracts with these positions. This would be severance with dismissal without cause. Motion made by Tuerler, seconded by Roudabush to set the public hearing date for Monday, June 20, 2016. Carried all.

Reports of Mayor/Council/Administrator

Mayor's Report. Fifth Avenue is close to being complete.

City Administrator's Report. The community center committee will be addressing Council at the first meeting in July to bring an initial proposal. At the next Council meeting, there will be discussion on moving the July 4th meeting to July 5th. Staff is working with three or four large companies that do radio read to look into radio read for water meters. The pool opened one night early for a free swim and had over 150 people attend. There have been over \$10,000 worth of pool passes sold. A public hearing date for the social host ordinance will be set at the next meeting. Main Street Iowa will be in town the week of June 22nd to do their review.

Adjournment. As there was no further business to attend to the meeting adjourned, the time being 7:48, June 6, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,
 Marsha Dewell
 Deputy Clerk

Marsha Dewell

From: Licensing@IowaABD.com
Sent: Friday, June 17, 2016 2:34 AM
To: Marsha Dewell
Cc: Licensing@IowaABD.com
Subject: [POSSIBLE SPAM] Liquor License Submitted to Local Authority

The following licenses are completed and awaiting local authority approval:

License #	License Status	Business Name
BC0019943	Submitted to Local Authority	Casey's General Store #1599 (323 Hwy 30 West Mount Vernon Ia 0000)

Please do not respond to this email. Contact the Division's Licensing Section with questions regarding the process or application status toll-free at 866.iowaABD (866.469.2223) (select option 1), locally at 515.281. option 1).

For assistance by email contact Licensing@IowaABD.com

E. Public Hearing

AGENDA ITEM # E – 1

**AGENDA INFORMATION
MT. VERNON CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

DATE:	June 20, 2016
AGENDA ITEM:	Public Hearing – Chapter 5 Amendment
ACTION:	None

SYNOPSIS: This is the time set for the public hearing on the amendment to Chapter 5 Operating Procedures. As I have explained, the severance package for the public works director, assistant city administrator, water/wastewater superintendent, and parks and recreation director is the last item that needs to be addressed from the contracts. Per Counsel, the ordinance can be amended to cover this allowance. The severance would be three months of salary and benefits, as long as they did not get released for “just cause” purposes.

BUDGET ITEM: N/A

RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT: City Administrator

MAYOR/COUNCIL ACTION: None – Proceed to F - 1

ATTACHMENTS: See F - 1

PREPARED BY: Chris Nosbisch

DATE PREPARED: 6/17/16

F. Ordinance Approval/Amendment

AGENDA ITEM # F – 2 thru 5

**AGENDA INFORMATION
MT. VERNON CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

DATE: June 20, 2016

AGENDA ITEM: Ordinances

ACTION: None

SYNOPSIS: Staff has not received any comments either in favor or against the ordinances as written. Staff would ask that Council consider waiving the second reading and moving to the third and final reading for Chapters 15, 17, and 21.

BUDGET ITEM: N/A

RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT: City Administrator

MAYOR/COUNCIL ACTION: Motions

ATTACHMENTS: See Ordinances

PREPARED BY: Chris Nosbisch

DATE PREPARED: 6/17/16

Prepared by: City of Mt. Vernon, City Hall,
Chris Nosbisch, City Administrator

213 First St. NW, Mt. Vernon, IA 52314
(319) 895-8742

ORDINANCE NO. ____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 5 OPERATING PROCEDURES OF THE CITY OF MT. VERNON MUNICIPAL CODE

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MT. VERNON, IOWA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. By adding Chapter 5.14 SEVERENCE. The Assistant City Administrator/City Clerk, Public Works Director, Water/Wastewater Superintendent, and Parks and Recreation Director shall receive continued salary payments and health benefits for a period not to exceed three (3) months when dismissed without “just cause.” No severance benefits shall be provided if the employee is released for “just cause.” Severance pay shall not include any pension contributions, insurance or other compensation.

SECTION 2. SAVINGS CLAUSE. If any section, provision, sentence, clause, phrase or part of this Ordinance shall be adjudged invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the Ordinance as a whole or any provision, section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or part hereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.

SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

Approved and adopted this ____ day of _____, 2016.

ATTEST:

Jamie Hampton - Mayor

Sue Ripke – City Clerk

I certify that the foregoing was published as
Ordinance No. ____ on the ____ day of _____, 2016.

Sue Ripke, City Clerk

Prepared by:	City of Mt. Vernon, City Hall, Chris Nosbisch, City Administrator	213 First St. NW, Mt. Vernon, IA 52314 (319) 895-8742
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ORDINANCE NO. ____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 15 MAYOR OF THE CITY OF MT. VERNON MUNICIPAL CODE

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MT. VERNON, IOWA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. The existing 15.02 (1.) is hereby repealed and replaced with a new 15.02 (1.). Chief Executive Officer. Act as the chief executive officer of the City and presiding officer of the Council. Have the power to examine all functions of the municipal departments, their records and to call for special reports from the City Administrator at any time.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT. By deleting 15.03 2. C. City Treasurer and D. City Attorney.

SECTION 3. SAVINGS CLAUSE. If any section, provision, sentence, clause, phrase or part of this Ordinance shall be adjudged invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the Ordinance as a whole or any provision, section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or part hereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.

SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

Approved and adopted this ____ day of _____, 2016.

ATTEST:

Jamie Hampton - Mayor

Sue Ripke – City Clerk

I certify that the foregoing was published as
Ordinance No. ____ on the ____ day of _____, 2016.

Sue Ripke, City Clerk

Prepared by:	City of Mt. Vernon, City Hall, Chris Nosbisch, City Administrator	213 First St. NW, Mt. Vernon, IA 52314 (319) 895-8742
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ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 17 COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MT. VERNON MUNICIPAL CODE

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MT. VERNON, IOWA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. By deleting 17.05 1. C. Parks and Recreation Director, D. Public Works Director, and F. Water/Wastewater Superintendent, and adding C. City Treasurer and D. City Attorney.

SECTION 2. SAVINGS CLAUSE. If any section, provision, sentence, clause, phrase or part of this Ordinance shall be adjudged invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the Ordinance as a whole or any provision, section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or part hereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.

SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

Approved and adopted this ____ day of _____, 2016.

ATTEST:

Jamie Hampton - Mayor

Sue Ripke – City Clerk

I certify that the foregoing was published as Ordinance No. ____ on the ____ day of _____, 2016.

Sue Ripke, City Clerk

Prepared by:	City of Mt. Vernon, City Hall, Chris Nosbisch, City Administrator	213 First St. NW, Mt. Vernon, IA 52314 (319) 895-8742
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ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 21 ADMINISTRATOR OF THE CITY OF MT. VERNON MUNICIPAL CODE

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MT. VERNON, IOWA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. The existing 21.02 (3.) is hereby repealed and replaced with a new 21.02 (3.) Supervise all departments of the City and give direction to department heads concerning functions of their departments as it relates to the day-to-day coordination of activities and employees. This excludes the Police Chief and all members of the Police department staff, but does include the City Clerk/Deputy City Administrator.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT. Hereby repealing the following language from 21.02 (4.) However, the City Administrator's authority to discipline employees identified in Sections 15.03 and 17.05 is limited to giving and oral reprimand, written reprimand or by suspending them without pay for up to three (3) days without prior approval.

SECTION 3. AMENDMENT. The existing 21.02 (6.) is hereby repealed and replaced with a new 21.02 (6.) Hiring and dismissal of the Parks and Recreation Director, Public Works Director, Water/Wastewater Superintendent, subject to City Council approval. Hiring and dismissal of all employees not specifically identified or exempted in 15.03, 17.05, and 21.02.

SECTION 4. SAVINGS CLAUSE. If any section, provision, sentence, clause, phrase or part of this Ordinance shall be adjudged invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the Ordinance as a whole or any provision, section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or part hereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.

SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

Approved and adopted this ____ day of _____, 2016.

ATTEST:

Jamie Hampton - Mayor

Sue Ripke – City Clerk

I certify that the foregoing was published as
Ordinance No. ____ on the ____ day of _____, 2016.

Sue Ripke, City Clerk

Prepared by:	City of Mt. Vernon, City Hall, Chris Nosbisch, City Administrator	213 First St. NW, Mt. Vernon, IA 52314 (319) 895-8742
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ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 92.02 USAGE RATE OF THE CITY OF MT. VERNON MUNICIPAL CODE

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MT. VERNON, IOWA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. By adding the following language, "Beginning August 1, 2016, the water service charge will increase 5%. This increase is in addition to the automatic 3% increase effective July 1, 2016."

SECTION 2. SAVINGS CLAUSE. If any section, provision, sentence, clause, phrase or part of this Ordinance shall be adjudged invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the Ordinance as a whole or any provision, section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or part hereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.

SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

Approved and adopted this ____ day of _____, 2016.

ATTEST:

Jamie Hampton - Mayor

Sue Ripke – City Clerk

I certify that the foregoing was published as
Ordinance No. ____ on the ____ day of _____, 2016.

Sue Ripke, City Clerk

G. Resolutions for Approval

AGENDA ITEM # G – 1

**AGENDA INFORMATION
MT. VERNON CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

DATE: June 20, 2016

AGENDA ITEM: Resolution Adopting Parks and Recreation Master Plan

ACTION: None

SYNOPSIS: Attached you will find a copy of the proposed parks and recreation plan that is being recommended by the Parks and Rec Board. Matt will be present at the meeting to answer any questions you may have.

BUDGET ITEM: N/A

RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT: City Administrator

MAYOR/COUNCIL ACTION: Motion

ATTACHMENTS: Resolution and Plan

PREPARED BY: Chris Nosbisch

DATE PREPARED: 6/17/16

RESOLUTION #6-20-2016A

RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2016 MT. VERNON COMPREHENSIVE PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Board of the City of Mt. Vernon, Iowa, held a public meeting on May 17, 2016 and made a recommendation to the City Council in favor of adopting the proposed 2016 Mt. Vernon Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan, and

WHEREAS, the City Council determines, having heard and considered all comments for and against said Master Plan, that the same should be approved.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MT. VERNON, IOWA, that the 2016 Mt. Vernon Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan, attached hereto and made a part thereof, is hereby approved.

APPROVED this 20th day of June, 2016.

Jamie Hampton, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Sue Ripke, City Clerk



Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan



Spring 2016



Mount
Vernon
IOWA

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Chalk the Walk 2015 , AGI - Aerial Gallery Iowa

Mission Statement

The Mount Vernon Parks and Recreation Board is dedicated to maintaining and improving the quality of parkland, natural resources, and recreational programming to enrich the lives of the community and its visitors.

We will:

Provide balanced opportunities for all people to enhance their physical and mental well-being.

Work to be environmentally and fiscally responsible within our parks and recreation system.

Develop effective collaborations and partnerships to enhance our community for current and future generations.



Davis Park Playground with Diamond in Background

INTRODUCTION

The City of Mount Vernon's Parks and Recreation Master Plan is for assessment of the community's needs and available resources in order to develop a clear set of goals, strategies and standards for the City's parks, trails, open space system, current and future recreation facilities, plus program development for the next ten years. Planning processes utilized a comprehensive approach, including: a physical inventory, statistically valid public survey, benchmarking, national standards analysis, demographics, mapping, and trends.

*"There are things
about living
in a
small town
that you can't
necessarily
quantify."*

- Brandon Routh

The community-driven master plan is intended to guide the City's Parks and Recreation in establishing sustainable, prioritized recommendations to: facility improvements and development, recreation programming, operations and maintenance, as well as the resources and funding associated with each action.

This is the initial Master Parks and Recreation Plan for the City of Mount Vernon. It is built with the expectation of further review and revision as needs and wants evolve within the Mount Vernon community.

Overview

Study Area

The study area for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan encompasses the entire town of Mount Vernon, which is located in eastern Linn County in East Central Iowa. The town of Mount Vernon has an official 2010 Census population of 4,506. The physical character of Mount Vernon's neighborhoods is mostly urban, with a small number of rural areas within city limits taken into consideration. It includes institutional land uses such as Cornell College, a Division III liberal arts college, and the Mount Vernon Community School District. The highest concentration of residents is in and around Town Center/Downtown.

Mount Vernon's neighbor directly to the east is Lisbon. Lisbon's city limits share boundaries with the city of Mount Vernon as well as various dual community events. Its official population in 2010 was 2,152. Lisbon funds its own Parks and Recreation department and programs, including a part-time director.



Mount Vernon, IA Road Map 2016, Google



Mount Vernon, IA 2016 Satellite Image, Google

The Process

I. Community Consultation/Survey

The Parks and Recreation Board initiated a community survey in November 2010 with results compiled in 2011. Sent out to every household (1,353), the survey contained 11 questions and room for additional comments. A total of 297 surveys were returned (21.9%) and compiled with results provided in *Table 1* (attached). It is recommended with future master plan updates the Parks and Recreation Board host discussions with local community recreation groups, the Mount Vernon Community School District, Cornell College, and city staff. The Parks and Recreation Board will welcome public input before recommending a finalized document to the Mount Vernon City Council.



Quarry Ridge
Disc Golf Course

II. Population and Projections

Per the 2010 census, there were 4,506 people, 1,353 households, and 894 families residing in the City. The population density was 1,291.1 inhabitants per square mile. 1,397 housing units completed an average density of 400.3 per square mile.

The racial makeup of the city was 95.0% White, 0.9% African American, 0.2% Native American, 1.7% Asian, 0.5% from other races and 1.6% from two or more races. Hispanic or Latino of any race were 1.9% of the population. There were 1,353 households out of which 37.3% had children under the age of 18 living with them, 54.2% were married couples living together, 9.2% had a female householder with no husband present, 2.7% had a male householder with no wife present, and 33.9% were non-families. 26.5% of all households were made up of individuals and 8.9% had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older. The average household size was 2.54 and the average family size was 3.14.

The median age in the city was 24.4 years. 22.9% of residents were under the age of 18; 27.7% were between the ages of 18 and 24; 19.7% were from 25 to 44; 20.1% were from 45 to 64; and 9.5% were 65 years of age or older. The gender makeup of the city was 48.5% male and 51.5% female.

The *2006 Fiscal Impact of Residential Development in Mount Vernon* study, located on the City's website conservatively predicted 5,000 residents in 2015. A 2012 Census estimate placed the city's population at 4,583 – a two-year growth rate from 2010 of nearly 2% in two years. According to the *Mount Vernon Comprehensive Plan*, a 2013 estimate was established based on the City's building permit data. Using 2.4 people per household and 18 new homes constructed since 2010, the 2013 estimated population was 4,626. The projected populations for 2020 and 2030 are discussed later in the same *Plan*. The population is expected to be over 5,180 residents by 2020 and nearly 6,000 by 2030.

**"Study nature,
love nature,
stay close
to nature.**

**It will never
fail you."**

- Frank Lloyd Wright



Bike Rack, 1st Street



The Nancy Doreen Huffman Dog Park



Under Hill Skate Park



Bryant Park Playground

III. Trends

The Master Plan process included a thorough examination of local, state, and national trends affecting parks and recreation. *Table 2* (attached) provides a summary of key trends expected to have significant implications in the future of parks and recreation in Mount Vernon.

IV. Parks and Recreation Delivery and Programming

The Plan addresses the methods of parks and recreation service delivery in the City, covering such topics as: relationships among the key providers, the role of the Park and Recreation Board and Recreation Department, and ways to improve coordination and communication with stakeholder groups. Existing programs and future programming needs were assessed. See *Table 3* (attached).

V. Recreation Facilities Inventory

Surveys and interviews with participants during a *2004 Needs and Space Analysis* and 2011 mail survey provided the necessary information which to base the projection of current and future needs for a variety of sports and community recreation facilities. Existing standards of supply and recommended provision levels were also considered in the context of future demand. The standards were then revised accordingly, taking into consideration not only current participation levels and public requests, but also recreation trends. Improvements to existing facilities are also recommended. This can be viewed in *Table 4* (attached).

VI. National Parks and Open Space Standards

The National Recreation and Park Association suggests that a park system, at a minimum, be composed of a total of 6.25 to 10.50 acres of developed open space per 1,000 population. Currently the City of Mount Vernon has 61.30 acres of park/open space dedicated to park land. Approximately 7.3 of those acres are undeveloped leaving the City with about 54 acres of developed open space.

Using the 2010 Census population (4,506), the City meets the national standards for developed open space having about 12 acres per 1,000 population. As development occurs, per *Subdivision Ordinance Chapter 166.16 Letter b Section 2*, 5% of the entire land area being developed will be reserved for City recreational areas and open space. This assists the City in consistently meeting National Standards. An annual review should be conducted by the Parks and Recreation Board to ensure the City is continuing to satisfy current national standards.

An inventory of publicly accessible parks and open space areas (including outdoor recreation facilities and amenities) was compiled and recommendations for park improvements were catalogued. Reviewed in *Table 5* (attached), the City's parks and linked open space network were also evaluated in terms of supply and demand through the application of a modified parkland hierarchy and provision standards.

The Issues / SWOT Analysis

The following are considered to be key issues and concerns from the Parks and Recreation Board and the Parks and Recreation Community Survey. These issues *are not* listed in any order of priority.

Marketing

There is no marketing plan in place. Plan creation would guide efficient consistent promotion, overall accuracy, and program awareness. Some marketing channels considered are: media outreach, placed advertisements, seasonal program guide/brochure, social media campaigns, and community outreach.

Park Maintenance

Parks and Recreation relies on Public Works staff to maintain and improve the City's parks. Tasks and projects are shared and discussed by the Director of Parks and Recreation and the Public Works Director and/or Lead Operator. Priorities and skill sets determine if the task can be performed in-house or contracted out. Without direct staff reporting to the Director of Parks and Recreation it can be difficult to prioritize this list against other tasks throughout the City. Parks and Rec and Public Works must continue to work together for the mutual benefit of maintaining the park system.

Organizational Structure of the Park and Recreation Department

Currently there is *one* full time employee for the department. Additional part-time staff are usually hired to perform simple and small maintenance items or to act as referees for sports programs. At times, part-time staff are hired to teach a skilled class. As the program offerings continue to grow, a permanent part-time employee should be considered to handle the participation and program management aspect. The City should also consider hiring additional maintenance staff as the City acquires more park land. This could be part-time or full-time staff depending on the amount of land that is acquired.

“Nature holds the key to our aesthetic, intellectual, cognitive and even spiritual satisfaction”

- E.O. Wilson



Mount Vernon Municipal Pool, Davis Park

The Issues / SWOT Analysis

<p style="text-align: center;">Strengths</p> <p>Sports Programs: Number, Variety Pool Trails Parks: Location, Number P&R Director P&R Board (full and active) Communication Online Registration Number of Ball and Soccer fields</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Weaknesses</p> <p>Lack of indoor facilities Adult Programming No park maintenance budget Getting info to new residents One-Man Show (P&R Director) Age of outdoor pool Park Maintenance does not report to P&R Director Community input/participation in P&R Board</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Opportunities</p> <p>Volunteerism Increasing population Supportive Council Cornell Schools Lisbon Future Development Grants</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Threats</p> <p>Lisbon Fundraising Travel/Competitive Programs Budget P&R Director position turnover P&R Board Turnover Park Maintenance expectations Wellness Center Indoor facilities not City owned</p>

Age of Outdoor Pool

The City pool is nearly 55 years old. A 2014 pool analysis provided insight on the pool's infrastructure; it identified various outdated mechanical features and a high possibility of failure. Recommendations were made to replace these features and provide upgrades so the pool may provide long term use.

*"Look deep
 into nature,
 and then
 you will
 understand
 everything
 better."*

- Albert Einstein

Community Input/Participation with Parks and Recreation Board

Currently there is very little community participation with the Parks and Recreation Board. Board members should make an effort to share with the community what is happening within Parks and Recreation. Members could use various methods to share with the community what is happening, including: social media, networking, community forums, or editorials. Council level participation could be increased by having a Council liaison present at Parks and Recreation Board meetings to update the City Council as needed.

Lack of City-owned Indoor Facilities

The City does not own or operate any indoor facilities for Parks and Recreation programs. Parks and Recreation relies on Community School facilities and/or private facilities for its programs. Owning and operating City facilities would allow: priority scheduling, higher frequency and variation of programs, and a central location. Much discussion about a Community Center built in Mount Vernon has occurred in the last few years. A Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) is currently in effect and is accruing revenue to be put towards such a center.

Young Adult, Adult Programming

Parks and Recreation offers Adult Coed Volleyball (two sessions), Adult Coed Softball, and a few School of Recreation enrichment classes. The Department should continue to offer many diverse opportunities for all ages of adults outside of sports programming.

Action Plan, Timing and Priorities

Action plans (recommendations) were divided into the following sections:

Section 2: Leisure Delivery System and Programming

Section 3: Existing Parks and Open Space

Section 4: New Recreation Facilities and Parks

Section 5: Implementation



Memorial Park

Each action has been assigned a recommended timing and priority. The ranking of action plan is based on high, medium, and low priorities. Rankings are largely weighted on the degree of need and safety concerns. Despite this ranking system, all action plans are deemed extremely important, and when implemented, would greatly benefit the park and recreation services of Mount Vernon.

The proposed timing of the action plans were referenced on short, intermediate, and long term time frames. Some recommendations do not include specific time frames due to shifting priorities, budgeting issues, and other unforeseen circumstances. The time frames are defined as follows:

Short Term (2016-2018)

Intermediate Term (2019-2021)

Long Term (2022-2026)

*"In all things of
nature there is
something of the
marvelous."*

- Aristotle

Please note that the priorities and timing indicated for the action plans are based on ideal circumstances. Budget pressures, changes in participation, availability of volunteer resources, land acquisition and retraction, and other factors may impact the implementation of the proposed action plans. These action plans are based on needs and not necessarily on what is financially achievable by the City of Mount Vernon and the Mount Vernon community.

The City should compare the action plans with its financial capacity and focus on the highest priority items. It is recommended Mount Vernon regularly monitors and updates the Master Parks and Recreation Plan and its action plans.



Elliott Park Playground

PARKS AND RECREATION DELIVERY AND PROGRAMMING

Overview

The delivery system is how recreation services are provided to the public. The City of Mount Vernon is the primary provider of public recreation facilities and parks. The City also administers a large number of community programs and services for all age groups.

In addition to the City of Mount Vernon, there are other public and private sector organizations that have played a prominent role, or continue to participate in the recreational delivery system: Mount Vernon Community Schools, Cornell College, First Street Community Center, Kernoustie Golf Club, DonMar Lanes, plus others.

There are numerous community organizations and volunteers within the City of Mount Vernon. These organizations, which include competitive sports teams, special interest groups, and individual volunteers, have traditionally played a large role in the delivery of recreation programs and have a strong record of active participation in the provision of leisure activities, fundraising, and sponsorship.

There are a few formal relationships or procedures among community organizations and the City of Mount Vernon.

Recreation programming deficiencies and needs were examined, resulting in recommendations to improve the scope of program opportunities. For the most part, the public indicated that the recreational opportunities in Mount Vernon are quite good. The results of a 2011 Parks and Recreation survey indicated that participation is quite high with 202 out of 297 of the responses having participated in one or more of the programs offered by Mount Vernon Parks and Recreation.



Nature Park Pond/Former Quarry Site

Action Plans



Sauter Park and Trail

One of the major challenges in the area of program delivery is marketing. Without a current marketing plan getting park and recreation program information to new residents has been a challenge. The Parks and Recreation Board should develop a simple marketing plan and review it annually and its effectiveness. Within this marketing plan should be components involving social media, editorials or guest columns in local and regional newspapers, as well as email contact lists. One recommendation is to create a "Welcome Wagon" approach to new residents, by providing them with a packet of information about Mount Vernon Parks and Recreation. This could be done through a similar process used by *Mount Vernon-Lisbon Community Development Group* or separately. Not only can Park and Recreation information be shared with new residents using this approach, but opens opportunity for sharing other general community information.

Additionally, a general lack of community input and participation in the Parks and Recreation Board was identified. On average, during each Parks and Recreation Board Meeting (on the third Tuesday of each month) there are few to none open forum participants, and rarely a community member. Adding a consistent and effective marketing plan will give the Board a better chance of reaching the community and making them aware of the issues at hand. Distributing Board minutes to groups of interest will open the awareness of the Parks and Recreation affairs to a day-to-day basis.

The departmental structure of the Park and Recreation Department is extremely challenging. The Parks and Recreation Director currently does not have direct reports. Thus, the department is truly a one-person show. As programs grow and more park land is acquired or developed, there will be a need for additional staffing. The Parks and Recreation Board, mainly an advisory board, could have its members take on some of the small tasks that come up time to time.

One more area where improvement can be made is in the lack of adult programming offered by the Parks and Recreation department. The department currently offers only a few programs for adult and seniors, most of which are sports related. The need to reach out to the adult and senior age groups is important and Parks and Recreation should solicit input and feedback on new programming ideas. Also more subcommittee involvement could lead to more programming ideas. The subcommittee on programming could host forums, networking, research, and other methods for gathering programming ideas for these demographics.

"Without community service, we would not have a strong quality of life. It's important to the person who serves as well as the recipient. It's the way in which we ourselves grow and develop."

- Dorothy Height

EXISTING PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

Overview

This section provides an analysis of existing parks and open space in Mount Vernon. Public open space and parks contribute to the quality of life of Mount Vernon residents by not only providing the land base for recreation activities and facilities, but also by contributing to the ecological health of the municipality and enhancing the aesthetic quality of the community.

There are 12 public and quasi-public parks within Mount Vernon totaling 61.3 acres (*Table 4, attached*). Each park was evaluated during the Master Plan process for its ability to meet the current and future needs of Mount Vernon residents. Each park was compared to the National Park Standards per the *National Parks and Recreation Association (NRPA)*. Action plans are proposed on a park-specific basis, detailing necessary improvements.

Mount Vernon has an extensive network of paved bicycle and pedestrian paths with plans to upgrade existing trails and develop new paths over the coming years. Trails are a valuable asset to the community; they assist not only in alleviating traffic congestion, but also provide space for a variety of unstructured, low-impact recreational activities. The continued development of both natural and paved trails received a great deal of public support in the household Parks and Recreation survey. A Local Option Sales Tax (LOST) is currently in effect and is accruing revenue to be put towards future trails.

The next pages are the most utilized parks in Mount Vernon's Parks and Recreation program. They are currently developed with specific features, reviews, and recommendations for the City.

***"Nature will bear
the closest
inspection. She
invites us to lay
our eye level with
her smallest leaf,
and take an
insect view
of its plain.***

- Henry David Thoreau



Memorial Park Gazebo

Memorial Park

Summary:

This almost two-acre park in the middle of historic Mount Vernon is the most visible City park, located along the Old Lincoln Highway/Main Street. The park is landlocked with no easy avenues for expansion. Amenities include a gazebo, two separate playground areas, walking paths, picnic benches, seating benches, and beautifully terraced landscaping. Memorial also hosts the City's water tower and Mount Vernon Visitor's Center.

Recommendations:

Memorial Recognition: Even though this park bears the name Memorial Park, visible recognition of veterans or memorials is absent. Some type of memorial theme, sculpture or recognition wall should be considered. The City could work with the local Legion chapter and consider a proper recognition.

Restroom Facilities: The park is used quite a bit, but currently no restroom facility within the park.

Gazebo Renovation: Consideration should be given to replacing and enlarging the gazebo while also re-designing the current seating area in front of the gazebo. This area needs to be more user-friendly while maintaining Mount Vernon's historic character.

Address: 401 1st Street W

Acreage: 1.9 Acres

Acquisition and Construction History: 1933

Playground: Two playground areas: one on the north end, one in the middle

Safety Surface: Pea Gravel

Athletic Field/s: None

Trail: Yes, wide cement trail winds through the middle of the park.

Park Roads and Parking Lots:

No designated lots. Parking available on side streets, the adjacent Visitor's Center, and nearby churches.

Ponds, River & Fountains: None

Trees, Landscaping and Beautification:

Mature and younger trees. Terraced landscaping around south side of gazebo.



Memorial Park Lower Playground

Memorial Park, cont.

Topography:

Land steeply slopes from high (southern side/1st St. West) to low (northern side/2nd St. North)

Site Amenities:

Many benches and picnic tables throughout. One antique-style drinking fountain.

Signs: New identification sign located at the west end of the park

Current Uses: Mostly passive: playground, local preschool use, some community gatherings and trail users.

Picnic Shelter: Gazebo with no tables or chairs; often it is used for municipal band performances.

Restroom: None

Lighting: Good general lighting with antique poles and globe housings.

Opportunities/ Constraints:

Most visible park in Mount Vernon, though it is landlocked (roads to the south and the north, residential to the east and the Visitor's Center on the west end). The current landscaping around the gazebo doesn't add to the enjoyment of the park and needs to be rethought.

Immediate Needs:

Need for a *recognition of veterans* memorial
Playground equipment and swing structure is leaning and needs adjustment

Intermediate Needs (1-3 years):

North playground's retaining wall needs to be replaced or reset to prevent collapse

Long Term Needs (3+ years):

Consideration of a restroom facility
Reconstruct a new gazebo and replace terraced landscaping



Mary Playground at Memorial Park

Bryant Park

Summary:

This 4.7 acre park is home to a large parcel of open space being utilized as three soccer fields (named after Rittmer Family in 2000) in the spring and fall, then for T-ball and coach pitch baseball/softball in the summer. Within the park there is a comprehensive playground, park shelter, and restrooms. The garage at the restroom building provides adequate storage. The park does house one of the City's many water wells near the west border of the park.

Recommendations:

Parking: The limited number of spaces makes parking for the many events and the narrow roadway makes travel to and from the park extremely difficult. Some undeveloped land does exist to the south of Bryant Road.; the City currently does not own the property, so otherwise the park is landlocked. There is an opportunity to expand parking to the north and west of the current parking lot, as this small section of land is not used for the Parks and Recreation programs.

Trails: This park is tucked away from the majority of Mount Vernon. The Parks and Recreation Board recommends future trails and/or more extensive sidewalks linking Bryant Park to the City's Comprehensive Trail Plan.

Address: Bryant Road **Acreeage:** 4.7 Acres

Acquisition and Construction History: 1999

Playground: East side of park, across from Bryant Court intersection.

Safety Surface: Pea Gravel

Athletic Field/s: One, used for Soccer, T-Ball, and Coach Pitch

Trail: Currently no trails to or from this park.

Park Roads and Parking Lots: One asphalt parking lot, diagonal parking allowed on park side of Bryant Road.

Ponds, River & Fountains: None

Trees, Landscaping and Beautification: : Nice mature shade trees surrounding park. Lots of new young trees spread throughout. Very nice newer trees line fence next to railroad. Need to landscape and beautify new park sign.

Topography: Gently rolling, ground slopes slightly north to south.

Site Amenities: The storage/restroom building has a brand new water fountain on the outside of the facility. The pavilion has many picnic tables.



Bryant Park

Bryant Park, cont.

Signs: New identification sign located at the east entrance of the park

Picnic Shelter: One with lots of picnic tables

Restroom: One is located at storage building

Lighting: Very low lighting. Could use street lights for parking lot.

Current Uses: Very Active: playground, t-ball, soccer fields, etc.

Opportunities/Constraints:

Landlocked with the railroad to the north, residential to the west and east. Land across Bryant Road to the south could be purchased for more parking or expansion of the park.

Immediate Needs:

New soccer goals

Landscaping at new park sign

Intermediate Needs (1-3 years):

Portable bleachers should be considered for various fields

Improved sidewalks along Bryant Road to improve connectivity and safety to park

Additional parking

Long Term Needs (3+ years):

Park Expansion

Additional trail



Bryant Park Playground

Davis Park

Summary:

This 6.0 acre park is home to one comprehensive ball field, a concession stand with two restrooms, an impressive assortment of playground equipment, a park shelter, a batting cage, two outdoor basketball courts, park benches, and the City Community Pool. In the winter, the basketball courts can be utilized as an outdoor ice rink. Cornell College utilized the ball field years ago and the upgrades made are still present, making this ball field much desired by teams and citizens.

In this park there is additional land to the north and west side of the park that is open space. Although it is in close proximity to the railroad, the grassy area can be utilized for sports team practices, an outdoor volleyball court, or other recreational amenities. There is also room in this area for the expansion of the pool.

Recommendations:

Concession/Restroom Renovation: The concession and restroom building are in disrepair. They are long overdue to be replaced in the next 3-5 years. A simple single-story block building would suffice in the same location. The current storage building near the batting cage also needs to be replaced. Future recommendations in the same section of the park include a replacement of outdated field lights.

Trails: It would be beneficial to the City of Mount Vernon to review connections to Davis Park when reviewing the Comprehensive Trails Plan to make accessibility easier and safer for pedestrians.

Major pool renovation or replacement: While the pool is a wonderful asset for the community, the pool is over 55 years old and often needs considerable fixes or additions to keep competitive and cost-effective for the City.

Address: 899 2nd Ave SW **Acreage:** 6 Acres

Acquisition and Construction History: 1964

Playground: Southeast side of park.

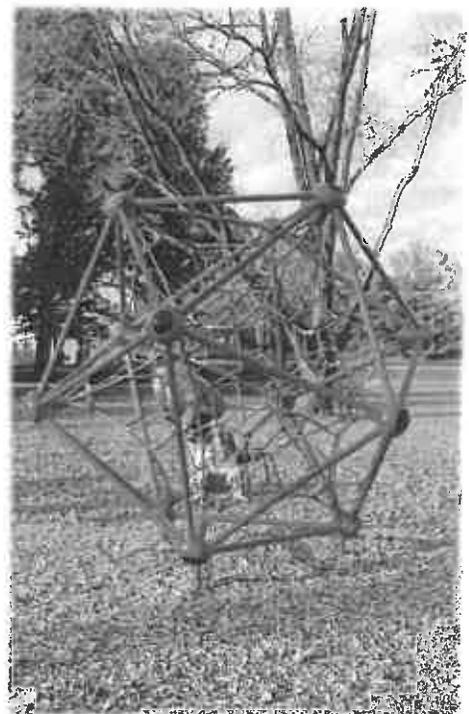
Safety Surface: Pea Gravel

Athletic Field/s: Softball/Baseball Field, Two Basketball Courts

Trail: There currently is not a trail in this park.

Park Roads and Parking Lots: Two asphalt parking lots.
One at Baseball/Softball Field and one at Outdoor Swimming Pool.

Ponds, River & Fountains: None



Davis Park Playground

Davis Park, cont.

Trees, Landscaping and Beautification: Many nice mature shade trees throughout the park. Large cottonwood tree next to playground will need to come down in next year or two. Trees need trimming. A few more trees could be planted on the southwest end of pool along exterior.

Topography: Fairly flat except the section between basketball court and playground has a low grade. Flooding does occur here.

Site Amenities: Many benches and picnic tables throughout the park. Portable and permanent bleachers are located at the ball field. The concession building has a water fountain on the outside of the facility.

Signs: New identification sign located at the east entrance of the park

Picnic Shelter: One pavilion with lots of picnic tables

Restroom: Located at the concession/storage building at the ball field and the outside of the pool building.

Lighting: Good lighting entire distance. Could use more LED lighting for nighttime security. Ballfield lighting needs to be replaced.

Current Uses: Very Active: the amenities such as pool, playground, ballfield, ice skating, keep it in use year-round.

Opportunities/Constraints: Landlocked with the railroad to the north, residential to the south, west and east. Current pool is roughly 55 years old. Renovations were performed in 1976, 1999, and discussed for 2016.

Immediate Needs:

- LED lighting at exterior of pool
- Replace park bench near basketball court
- Plant trees near pool
- Renovate pool
- Repair roof on storage building near batting cage

Intermediate Needs (1-3 years):

- Replace Concession stand building (including restrooms)
- Repair permanent bleachers
- Replace storage building near batting cage

Long Term Needs (3+ years):

- Create trail through park from 8th Ave NW
- Replace/update ball field lights



Davis Park Playground

Elliott Park

Summary:

This 14.2 acre park is home to five separate ball fields all sharing a common concession stand and restrooms. To the west of the concession stand is a playground with limited playground equipment. Next to one of the fields is a batting cage. There is land available to the east and northeast of Elliott Park, although the City does not own the land. There is also a park shelter in this park.

The park land is used for sports in addition to baseball/softball. The City's soccer programs utilize the space in the Spring and the City's Fall Flag Football program along with MVYSF's tackle football utilize this space in the Fall. This park is the most utilized within the City's park system.

Recommendations:

Growth: With further residential development the City should consider purchasing land for more park space to the north and east of Elliott Park.

Playground Area Redesign: The City should consider purchasing more playground equipment and expand the playground area. With the amount of use this park experiences, the enlarged playground area and equipment will make this spot even more popular.

Trails: A trail should be extended across the street from Field A trail to playground area.

Address: 201 Seventh Street NE

Acreage: 14.2 acres

Highlights of Park: Ball Fields, Batting Cage, Playground, Pavilion with tables, Storage Garage with Restrooms and

Acquisition and Construction History: 1999-2001 (formerly Mount Vernon Athletic Complex)

Playground: Located near the concession stand and bathrooms, west side of park.

Safety Surface: Pea Gravel

Athletic Field/s: 5 Ball Fields, greenspace of fields is used for youth football and youth soccer

Trail: There currently is a trail that runs north and south in this park along parking lot. Additional trail land is proposed along with a crossing. This trail links with the Sauter Park trail.



One of the Elliott Park Ball Fields

Elliott Park, cont.

Park Roads and Parking Lots: Three asphalt parking lots, all fairly new and in good condition.

Ponds, River & Fountains: None

Trees, Landscaping and Beautification: Nice large trees with shade surrounding park. A couple of trees were taken down to the north of the concession stand and will need to be replaced. Lots of new trees spread throughout this park.

Topography: Fairly flat, though the land is in a flood plain. Land slopes downward from railroad track on north towards the south.

Site Amenities: There are many benches and picnic tables throughout the park. There are portable bleachers located at the ball field. The concession building has a water fountain on the outside of the facility. The pavilion has many picnic tables.

Signs: New identification sign located at Cass St. entrance

Picnic Shelter: One pavilion with lots of picnic tables and grill

Restroom: One set is located at the concession/storage building

Lighting: Very low lighting. Could use some street lights for adequate parking lot safety. Field lighting would be a good investment, expanding the usability of the fields.

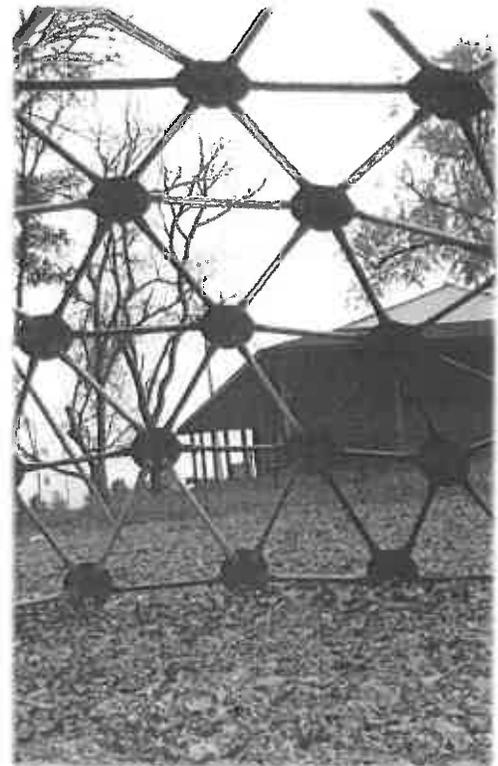
Current Uses: Very active: playground, ballfields, soccer fields, flag football

Opportunities/Constraints:
Landlocked with the railroad to the north, residential to the south, but there is farmland for sale to the east.

Immediate Needs:
Expand playground amenities
Additional signage at the 7th Street entrance

Intermediate Needs (1-3 years):
Purchase more portable bleachers
Trail and crossing should be extended from Cass St. to playground area, including a crosswalk

Long Term Needs (3+ years):
Ball Field lighting for at least one field
Land acquisition to the east



Elliott Park Playground and Multi-use Building

Nature Park

Summary:

This 22.3 acre park is the City's largest open space and most unique. With an abundance of trees and wildlife an old quarry provides a natural water source within the City limits. Surrounding the quarry is a natural trail. Also included within this park is the *Nancy Doreen Huffman Dog Park*. This one acre dog park is fenced in and allows for an off-leash area. Another portion of the park is the *Quarry Ridge Disc Golf Course*. This nine-hole course is short (by national standards) allowing for beginners to achieve success and winds through a forest area creating a challenging course for more advanced players.

Recommendations:

Trail and Bridge Work: There is the need to improve areas along the natural trail, and connect park land with land across creek (ambulance site) with a walking bridge.

Quarry Pond Maintenance: Regular maintenance of the pond needs to be implemented. Dock improvement and entryway to dock need to occur for a safer and more enjoyable park experience.

Address: 699 3rd Street SE **Acreage:** 22.3 Acres

Acquisition and Construction History: 1972

Playground: None

Athletic Field/s: None

Trail: There are two types of trail at this park: an asphalt trail that runs along west end connecting to the driveway then leads to Sauter Park trail. There is also a natural trail running around the quarry lake.

Park Roads and Parking Lots: Two parking lots, one on east side and one on west side of park.

Ponds, River & Fountains: Quarry pond

Trees, Landscaping and Beautification: Many nice mature shade trees throughout the park. Younger trees planted a few years ago throughout park especially near disc golf course.

Topography: Gently rolling to flat



The Nancy Doreen Huffman Dog Park

Nature Park, cont.

Site Amenities: One recently installed drinking fountain, picnic tables located at two pavilions, and picnic tables and park benches located at the dog park

Signs: New identification sign located at the east entrance of the park

Picnic Shelter: Two pavilion with picnic tables

Restroom: One restroom facility

Lighting: Street lights are all lighting that is provided in this park. Could use more lighting.

Current Uses: Very passive with active elements of Dog Park and Disc Golf Course. Very relaxing and largest open space park in Mount Vernon.

Opportunities/Constraints:

Landlocked road to the south with DOT land and State Highway 30, St. John's Church owns the farmland to the west, road to the north, and residential/commercial to the east.

The natural and asphalt trail both need repairs. There is a City-owned parcel to the south and east where the Ambulance Service is housed. The City should consider connecting these two parcels with a foot/walking bridge or other form of connection.

The quarry pond creates a couple of necessary concerns and areas of improvement. The current dock is in disrepair along with the driveway that leads to the dock. Another item on concern for improvement would be the maintenance of the water surface of the quarry pond. For years, the pond has been infested with water meal, a very difficult water plant. Chemical products are used to treat the plant.

Immediate Needs:

Chemical treatment of quarry water meal

Intermediate Needs (1-3 years):

Replace dock at quarry pond
Improve access to dock

Long Term Needs (3+ years):

Creation of a foot/walking bridge to connect
Nature Park with land to the southeast
Improve natural trail once Highway 30 becomes
a City street



Hole 2, Quarry Ridge Disc Golf Course

Underhill Skate Park

Summary:

This 1.1 acre park is home to the City's skate park housed with metal structures created by a local merchant. This park also contains a small playground. A City trail conveniently runs adjacent to the skate park making access extremely easy.

Recommendations:

Relocate Skate Park: Many neighbors do not like the close proximity of the park to their residences. The noise from the metal structures can be loud and participants occasionally frequent the park after hours. Perhaps an option would be to move the park as land becomes available outside of residential neighborhoods.

Parking Improvements: Parking should be improved across the street next to the old ambulance building with consideration to concrete or asphalt, while a sidewalk on the south side of the park (3rd St NE) would increase park and trail accessibility.

Address: 3rd Street NE

Acreage: 1.1 acres

Acquisition and Construction History: 2003

Playground: One playground on north edge of park.

Constructed: 2003

Safety Surface: Pea Gravel

Athletic Field/s: None

Trail: There currently is a trail that runs on the west edge of this park along parking lot. This trail links with the Sauter Park trail.



Underhill Skate Park, initial opening

Underhill Park, cont.

Park Roads and Parking Lots: Gravel lot across 3rd St. at the old ambulance building, now a City work building.

Ponds, River & Fountains: None

Trees, Landscaping and Beautification: Few trees, mostly arborvitae providing little shade.

Topography: Fairly flat, steep hill on northeast corner from trail to playground area.

Site Amenities: Picnic table, park benches, drinking fountain

Signs: New identification sign located at 3rd St NE side (south) of park

Picnic Shelter: None

Restroom: None

Lighting: Trail lighting at Sauter Park to benefit this park, light at corner of 3rd and B

Current Uses: Very Active: skate park, playground, trail users

Opportunities/Constraints: Landlocked with roads to the south and east, residential to the north and west.

Immediate Needs:

New Tree Plantings

Intermediate Needs (1-3 years):

Consider repainting skate park elements
Sidewalk on south side of park to meet up with residential sidewalk
Paving/asphalt gravel parking lot
Trail lighting to continue from Sauter Park to the north along trail leading to Elliott Park/Parks and Recreation office building

Long Term Needs (3+ years):

Consideration of a restroom facility
Consideration of a pavilion



Underhill Skate Park

Sauter Park

Summary:

This 1.01 acre park is home to the City's best greenway. It is a substantial cement trail that links three of Mount Vernon's parks. It has a pavilion and borders Hahn Creek.

Recommendations:

Trail Building: Continue with comprehensive trail plan connecting Sauter Trail to the network of trails and paths within the City of Mount Vernon

Parking Improvements: Parking should be improved next to the old ambulance building with consideration to concrete or asphalt, while a sidewalk on 3rd St NE would increase park and trail accessibility.

Address: 3rd Street NE

Acreage: 1.1 acres

Acquisition and Construction History: 2010

Playground: None

Athletic Field/s: None

Trail: There is a trail that runs from Nature Park through Underhill Park to Elliott Park.

Park Roads and Parking Lots: Gravel lot across 3rd St. at the old ambulance building, now a City work building.

Ponds, River & Fountains: Hahn Creek

Trees, Landscaping and Beautification: Many trees line the trail, including shade trees and new plantings.

Topography: Gently rolling except near 1st St. intersection.

Site Amenities: Gazebo with picnic table.

Signs: New

Restroom: None

Lighting: Trail lighting

Current Uses: Trail users include bikes, runners, walkers

Opportunities/Constraints: Landlocked with roads to the north and south, residential to the east and west.

Immediate Needs:

New Tree Plantings

Intermediate Needs (1-3 years):

Paving/asphalt gravel parking lot

Long Term Needs (3+ years):

Consideration of a restroom facility



Sauter Park Gazebo

NEW RECREATION FACILITIES AND PARKS

Overview

A combination of market-driven and population standards, as well as public opinion was used to assess and estimate future community demand and need for recreation facilities in Mount Vernon. The use of standards is felt to be the most accurate, rational, and scientific approach to determining facility needs. Other contributing factors, such as demographic trends, public opinions, and survey comments have also been incorporated in order to provide an overall estimation of need.



Memorial Park

Recommended Future Facilities

Recommendations for new recreation facilities to be developed are below. It is important to understand that not all of these projects may be financially feasible for Mount Vernon to undertake during the proposed timeframe.

Short Term (2016-2018): Comprehensive Trail Network

The City of Mount Vernon greatly benefits from the trails which currently exist. With a comprehensive trail network linking our greenspace, not only do citizens have safer routes within Mount Vernon, but an additional way to incorporate healthful habits and a healthier community. The Comprehensive Trail Network is a vital community resource, facilitating easy, safe travel between neighborhoods.



Davis Park Courts

Intermediate (2019-2021): Community Center

The Mount Vernon Parks and Recreation Director and Board has recognized that increased participation in indoor offerings (basketball, classes) is difficult to schedule in a consistent manner. This is due to the whole Mount Vernon Community's overwhelming need for more indoor activity space. The Board sees this shortage as a good problem to have; it is great to have the community actively participating in so many programs.

The establishment of a Community Center would give a number of opportunities for not only the consistency of strong Parks and Recreation programs, but an opportunity to increase quality offerings to a larger demographic. A community center could hold many classes, facilitate large community gatherings, and be an anchor for the growing City of Mount Vernon.

Long Term (2022-2026): Splash Pad

The Mount Vernon Parks and Recreation Director and Board easily admits that the immediate focus on water entertainment is the City's pool and the immediate need to remodel and improve what already exists. In a long-term perspective we have seen an increase in area cities who provide a splash pad feature, including Center Point, Lisbon, Wilton, and Marion/Cedar Rapids.

These specialized park features are great for all ages, as well as for those who do not frequent swimming pools. The Board sees an opportunity in adding this fun and popular water feature by strategically enhancing a future park, especially if development increases to the south of town towards the new bypass.

Coming together
is a beginning;
keeping together
is progress;
working together
is success.

- Henry Ford

IMPLEMENTATION

Overview

The Master Parks and Recreation Plan is a long-range, strategic planning document intended to guide decision-making for the City for the next 10 years. With any document that utilizes a long term planning outlook it becomes difficult to ensure accuracy. As a result, there is a need for the action plans to be periodically updated and reviewed to ensure that the Plan remains reflective of the current realities and responsive to the changing needs of the community. It is recommended that the Parks and Recreation Board review the Plan on an annual basis and make changes as desired. It is also imperative that the Master Plan be linked to the City's budget process and Capital Improvement Plans and the action plans be reconciled with the City's fiscal capacity.



City of Mount Vernon, looking towards Cornell College, © Jamie Kelly

MAPS/TABLES/ETC....

TABLE I—Community Survey 2010

City of Mount Vernon, Iowa, Parks and Recreation Department
Community Survey Results, Issued November 2010

Total Surveys Returned: 297; 11 questions, plus comments.

Question 1: Anyone in your household use parks in Mount Vernon?

YES	NO	Did Not Answer
245	30	22

Question 2: If yes, which facilities (and frequency)?

	Used/Visited	1-5 Times	6-10 Times	10+
Davis Park	104	78	36	88
Memorial Park	83	86	43	50
Bryant Park	67	61	35	37
Elliott Athletic Complex	63	46	32	67
Nature Park	76	66	28	44
Swimming Pool	87	50	31	87
Skate Park	25	29	7	15
Walking Path from Elliott to 1st St.	73	42	38	90
First Street Community Center Gym	42	32	23	24
Elementary School Playground	61	44	24	74
Cornell Disc Golf Course	24	21	6	11

Question 3: What additional facilities would you like us to provide (choices given)?

Additional Facility	Check Mark
Soccer Fields	32
Baseball / Softball Diamonds	42
Football / Soccer Fields	35
Sculpture Garden	50
Open / Green Space	69
Walking / Jogging Paths	197
Pavilions	38
Picnic Shelters	60
Playground Equipment	54
Splash Pad	104

Question 4: Anyone in your household participate in or attend City sponsored activities?

YES	NO	DNA
200	71	26

Question 5: If yes, which activities (choices)?

Soccer	Tball	Baseball	Softball	Coach-Pitch	Swimming Lessons
93	76	60	36	43	81

Flag Football	Swim Team	Chalk the Walk	Basketball	Water Exercise	Cookie Decorating
49	23	176	48	16	68

MAPS/TABLES/ETC....

TABLE I—Continued

Question 6: Any additional programs you would like provided (choices)?

Adult Soccer	Adult Basketball	Adult Volleyball	Adult Softball	Adult Arts & Enrichment
16	23	84	49	94
Family Game Night	Adult Flag Football	Adult Swimming Lessons	Movies in the Park	Youth Arts & Enrichment
45	22	25	119	93

Question 7: How did you learn about programs (marketing)?

City Mailer / Newsletter	City Website	The Sun	Friday Folders
135	32	221	101

Question 8: Rate maintenance of parks (scale 1-5 with 1 being poor).

1 (poor)	2	3	4	5
4	7	63	128	81

Question 9: If answered 1, 2, 3 on scale for Question #8 which parks are in need of maintenance. (no particular order)

Nature Park/the South Park

In general (5)
 Paths are overgrown, needs trimming, please kill of poison ivy on trail. (3)
 Path around Nature Park Quarry is dangerous – in need of railing or cables.
 Widen the path on north side where two benches overlook the quarry
 Park is often dirty and littered. (2)
 Dock needs improvement.
 Perhaps Nature/quarry park could be beautified better.
 Bathroom at Nature Park is often locked.
 What is the purpose of new land, it's a mess.

Sauter Park

Concrete on trail from skate park to 1st St. needs immediate repair. (8)

Memorial Park

In general (3)
 Very limited access from 2nd St.
 Steps not regularly cleared of snow.
 Sidewalk leading down around play area.
 Is the most visible to local and out-of-towners.
 New trees.
 Maintenance of Gardens & Memorial Park/Visitors Center (2)
 Need access to full-time bathroom facilities – many young children need quick use.
 What few flower gardens there are they are full of weeds and desperately need mulch. (3)

Davis Park

In general (3)
 Swimming Pool: lockers at swim pool -rusty mirrors, doors, lockers (2)
 Clean playground equipment more often.
 Basketball courts: hoops need new nets and court needs to be swept (2)
 Ball field, weeds/grass (5)
 Maintain ice and announce when it is frozen.
 Need drinking fountains, especially at Davis Park.

Bryant Park

Had broken toys the last time I was there.

Elliott Park

In general (1)
 Diamonds are rough, weeds/grass, poorly groomed with many dips, etc. (7)
 Diamonds appear only groomed if Parks and Recreation plans games.
 Turf for all the fields, dugouts needed for ball fields, brutally hot during softball season for players.
 Bathrooms only open/working part time.
 Concession stand – make usable

MAPS/TABLES/ETC....

TABLE I—Continued

Question 9 Continued:

Skate Park
Has a lot of litter

Lincoln Way Park
Needs to have grass kept out of the brick all of the time.

All/General

I would like to see better general maintenance of grounds, planting areas, weeding, mulch, etc. (5)
 Poorly designed landscaping.
 Maintenance seems to be mostly just mowing grass.
 Litter pick up.
 Mostly shelters and picnic tables.
 Cracked paths/sidewalks. (4)
 Drinking fountains do not work well.
 Bathrooms, (2)
 All of them -- there are not enough workers, no schedule of need, no leader.
 We cancelled or changed locations of games this year more than once.
 We actually played on these fields. Very frustrating.
 Neutral -- no good or bad experiences
 Small garden coming in from Mount Vernon Rd.
 Elementary School Playground
 Too much time (City) spent on these, only a small percentage use these.
 I think they do a good job for the amount of parks we have.
 New flower beds look great!
 I don't frequent them enough to really know, but generally when I drive by they look as if they are maintained well.
 From the little I've seen, Mount Vernon can be proud.

Question 10: Prioritize following groups (choices) scale 1-6 (1 highest priority).

Tally on left is total score of all entries added together, right is # answered /responded. Average = 3

FACILITIES

Pre-School	Elementary	Middle School	High School	Adults 18-65	Adults 66 and up
420 / 121 = 3.47	385 / 130 = 2.96	382 / 122 = 3.13	451 / 114 = 3.96	339 / 115 = 2.94	440 / 124 = 3.54

PROGRAMS

Pre-School	Elementary	Middle School	High School	Adults 18-65	Adults 66 and up
402 / 118 = 3.41	377 / 122 = 3.09	399 / 117 = 3.41	466 / 117 = 3.98	336 / 122 = 2.75	430 / 121 = 3.55

Question 11: ALL Additional comments for survey. Includes comments after various questions.

A comprehensive trail system linking the parks and looping the City should be a top priority. (A trail or bike section of road that exposes the old railroad bridge overpass, then continues to Mount Vernon Road or a path along Springville Road or to Cedar Rapids, Bertram or Palisades. Better overall sidewalks.) (26)

More green space and a park on the west side of town. (2)

Splash pad at Bryant

Trail around Nature Park could be better maintained. (2)

Like to see Mount Vernon have community gardens. This would be through Parks and Recreations, like Cedar Rapids'.

It would be nice to have a bathroom at Memorial Park -- Visitor Center is often closed and City Hall is a long way to walk.

More elaborate playground than the elementary school which is hard to use for preschool-age while school is in session.

Parks with gardens are nice to view. This adds to the aesthetics of the community.

Nature park is heavily used and a gem. Please keep it natural.

More handicap-accessible playgrounds.

Maintain outdoor ice rink.

Parking is a major issue at Bryant and Elliott; actually all areas.

Davis needs more young shade trees and benches near all playground equipment for parents and grandparents.

Overall the parks are great -- be sure bathrooms are accessible and clean, trash picked up, etc.

Pets are left out. A dog park would be great. (7)

We need a Youth/Community Center for all: MVMS and MVHS students need out of school activities, place to safely hang out. (6)

MAPS/TABLES/ETC....

TABLE I—Continued

Question 11: ALL Additional comments for survey continued.

Keep the library open, just because Cornell is on break doesn't mean there aren't people who need to use it!
Swimming during all seasons/year round swimming pool/lap pool. (9)

Need early morning adult lap swim at least twice a weekday for 35-40 minutes.

Need expanded swim lessons/programs/hours: more lessons after 4:30 pm, a 60 afternoon swim or exercise class. (3)

Better swim lesson instructor/student ratios.

Host family nights with reduced admission or theme nights at pool.

Swim team option is great for kids.

Partner with YMCA (2)

Partner with YMCA (2)

Combine programs and facilities with Lisbon.

Partnerships with the schools and Cornell to provide more programs and increase utilization of under used spaces throughout the community.

Growth is important and expected - good luck!

Can't open Microsoft and Publisher files from your site - use PDFs.

Indoor skating, storm shelter, year-round volleyball, horseshoe are, badminton areas, rent go karts or mini golf, bowling leagues for 6th grade and up, tetherball at parks

Need open gyms in winter months.

This town is full of artist talent. Parks and Recreation need to tap into this more than once a year art festival.

All ages need facilities and all types of programs, including summer enrichment/arts programs (preschool, elementary, MS, HS, young adult, parents, elderly). (13)

Maybe one time a week take a bus and charge like \$2/kid and take to skate rink for four hours and back home - things like that.

Movies in the Park is a great idea!

Love Toddler Time - think Lisbon organizes this.

Suggest offering free for one child or reduced fee for coaching (head coach) for Pre-K through 6th sports. Might get more interest of coaches if they get something for their time.

Consider financial constraints for participation in programs.

Instead of getting a shirt for every sport and season, have each child purchase a reversible maroon & white jersey similar to the basketball jerseys many boys & girls have used in the past. Then the same shirt can be used and the team is either maroon or white.

Over the years things have changed - created a climate of us and them in the community; those who play Parks and Recreation and who play leagues.

Recreation activities are a bit disorganized and not much advance notice regarding game and practice schedules.

Football and soccer need their own seasons. Many kids want to do both at a young age and it is difficult to do both. (3)

We seem to start Parks and Recreation seasons later in the fall than needed.

We used Parks and Recreation programs when we had children.

Usually hear about Parks and Recreation Events through Word of Mouth. (12)

Cannot evaluate - not involved in all age groups/lack knowledge/just moved to area/don't use. (5)

In the past the Parks and Recreation department has not been flexible sharing time with other organizations.

Only lived here a short time - maybe some way to access events or programs regularly through email or website perhaps?

Various general accolades/compliments/satisfaction for Parks and Recreation (8)

Too much money spent on maintenance. Nature Park was mowed four times in one week in August.

We do not need more parks/is fine/maintain what we have. (9)

People, especially children, are organized & programmed too much in every way. We all need more places & spaces to do what individuals want to do without the group mentality, without the stress of group dynamics.

I didn't know the first street community center gym existed - what is the cost?

Could it (gym) be low cost for seniors and out of work? Low income?

MAPS/TABLES/ETC....

TABLE 2 - Trends

	Description
Trails and Bike Paths	More money being spent and more communities are creating long-range plans
Inclusiveness and Special Needs	Programming, Parks, and Program Delivery
Multigenerational	Making Parks and Facilities inclusive and multigenerational friendly
Technology	Online, Interactive, Upgrades to existing
Key Benefits of P&R Are Getting Recognized	Physical, Mental, Social, Youth Development, Environmental, Economic Impact
Smaller Budgets	As money gets tighter, departments being asked to do more with less

TABLE 3 - City of Mount Vernon Park Program Delivery Matrix

PROGRAM	AGE GROUPS						SCOPE OF OPPORTUNITY				
	Preschool - 0-5 yrs	Elementary Grades K-4	Middle School Grades 5-8	High School Grades 9-12	Adults 18-55	Seniors 55+	Skill Development	Physical Development	Relaxation	Arts and Culture	Tournament/Competition
Fall Soccer	x	x	x				x	x			
Fall Flag Football	x	x					x	x			
NFL Punt Pass Kick		x	x								x
Fall Basketball - Girls		x	x				x	x			
Winter Basketball - Boys		x	x				x	x			
Adult Coed Volleyball					x			x			
Wrestling	x	x					x	x			
NBA Skills		x	x								x
Spring Soccer	x	x	x				x	x			
Blastball	x						x	x			
T-ball	x	x					x	x			
Coach Pitch		x					x	x			
Baseball		x	x				x	x			
Softball		x	x				x	x			
Adult Coed Softball					x			x			
Family Fun Fitness	x							x			
Beginning Spanish		x									x
Lego/Robotics			x								x
Pumpkin Floral Arrangements					x	x			x	x	
Geocaching		x									x
Winter Outdoor Arrangements					x	x			x	x	
Little Princess Tea Time	x	x									x
Plaster Mask Making		x	x								x
Blueberry Basket Weaving					x	x			x	x	
Beginning Bridge					x	x			x		
Bicycle Maintenance			x	x	x	x			x		
Beginning Drama		x	x								x
Aquafina Pitch Hit and Run		x	x								x

TABLE 4 - City of Mount Vernon Park Inventory

PARK	Acreege	Park/Picnic Shelters	Gazebos	Concession Stands	Lighted Ballfields	Unlit Ballfields	Batting Cages	Bleachers	Soccer Fields	Basketball Courts	Playgrounds/Play Sets	Swing Sets	Park Benches	Picnic Tables	Barbeque Grills	Restrooms	Drinking Fountains	Trash Receptacles	Skate Parks	Swimming Pools	Parking Lot Spaces
Davis Park	6.0	1		1	1		1	2		1	2	3	8	10	1	2	2	5		1	46/0H ball and 72/2H pool
Elliott Park	14.2	1		1		5	1	4			1	1	2	3	1	1		7			52/2H lower and 36/0H upper
Bryant Park	4.7	1							3		1	1	2	8	0	1	1	2			60/1H
Memorial Park	1.9		1								2	2	4	1	1		1	2			4/1H
Nature Park	22.3	2											2	2	3	1		1			14/0H
Underhill Skate Park	1.2										1		2	1			1	2	1		unmarked parking
Stoner Park	4.3				UNDEVELOPED																undeveloped
Lincoln Way Park	0.5																				none
Pralrie Park	1.4																				8/0H
South Park	1.1				UNDEVELOPED																undeveloped
Sauter Park	1.9		1											1							none
Lot 32	1.9				UNDEVELOPED																undeveloped
Totals:	61.3	5	2	2	2	5	2	6	3	1	7	7	20	26	6	5	5	19	1	1	

MAPS/TABLES/ETC....

TABLE 5: Comprehensive Trails Plan

Comprehensive Trails Plan
 This plan contains updates and amendments to the table planning that the community undertook with the development of the Mount Vernon Parks and Schools Safe Connection Routes Plan completed in 2007. This map specifically updates Map 4: Long-Range Level of Service Recommendations of that trail plan.

- Significant updates include:
1. Changing Pillsbury Road as a less than desirable pedestrian crossing due to limited sight distance.
 2. Identifying 4th Street South as a primary pedestrian route, also to receive acquisition of additional Nature Park land at the east end of the corridor and great intersection sight distance at Highway 1.
 3. Revised west side connector route to coincide with latest developments plans for Stonebrook neighborhood.
 4. Plan considers forthcoming roundabout improvements and resulting improved pedestrian access at the intersection of Highway 1 and 3rd.
 5. Plan includes accommodations for access to south of Highway 30 bypass and linkages to regional trails and Pillsbury-Kegler State Park.
 6. Plan identifies more strategically planned crossings of Highway 1.

The trail plan identifies four preferred Highway 1 crossing locations between Pillsbury Road and Case Street North. Three of the crossings are located where Highway 1 traffic is not required to stop (i.e. 4th Street South, 3rd Street North & 7th Street North) and the fourth preferred intersection is suggested to occur at 1st Street where traffic lights exist. These crossing locations are logically spaced and were selected because topography and sight distance are not an issue. Few locations will require minor limbings up of trees however is not a significant issue.

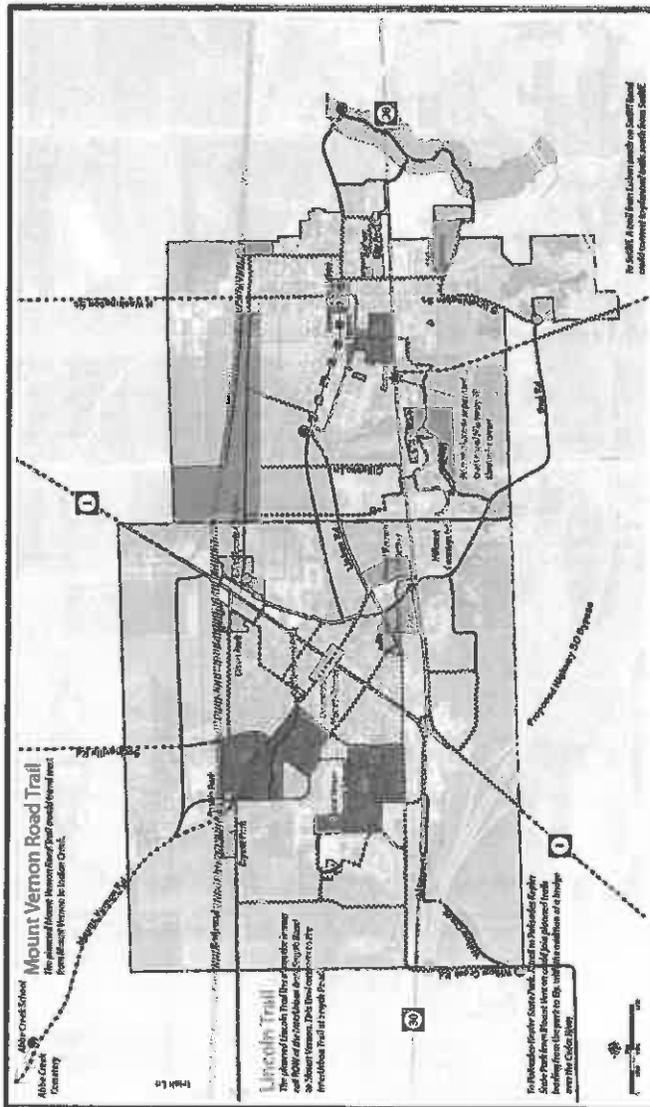
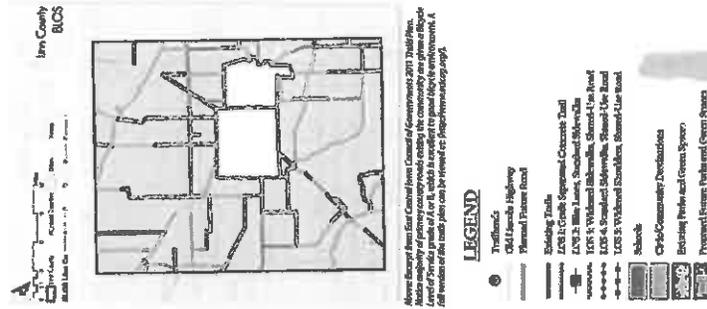
Other than these aforementioned updates, the Mount Vernon Parks and Schools Safe Connection Routes Plan should still be considered the guiding document for the community's trail development. Much research and community input was put forth with that process and simply was not feasible to start that process over within the Visioning Program timeframe.



Mount Vernon
Comprehensive Trails Plan
 Landscape Architect: Loren Hoffman, ASLA, Heil and Hall Engineers, Inc.
 LA Intern: Nicholas Gulick and Robin Hamadani, ISU Landscape Architecture Extension
 Iowa Department of Transportation Trees Forever ISU Landscape Architecture Extension
 ISU Extension Community and Economic Development Summer 2011

MAPS/TABLES/ETC....

TABLE 6: Regional Comprehensive Trails Plan



Mount Vernon

Regional Comprehensive Trails Plan

Landscape Architect: Loren Hoffman, ASLA, Hall and Hall Engineers, Inc.
 LA Intern: Nicholas Gulick and Robin Hamadani, ISU Landscape Architecture Extension

Iowa Department of Transportation Trees Forever ISU Landscape Architecture Extension ISU Extension Community and Economic Development



AGENDA ITEM # G – 2

**AGENDA INFORMATION
MT. VERNON CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

DATE: June 20, 2016

AGENDA ITEM: Resolution Bee City

ACTION: None

SYNOPSIS: The City has submitted a request to the Bee City Parent organization to be recognized as a Bee City USA community. As part of the application process, the City must adopt a resolution supporting its position as a Bee City. The Sustainability Committee has been working on this project and presented this concept to the Council at a previous meeting.

BUDGET ITEM: N/A

RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT: City Administrator

MAYOR/COUNCIL ACTION: Motion

ATTACHMENTS: Resolution

PREPARED BY: Chris Nosbisch

DATE PREPARED: 6/17/16

RESOLUTION #6-20-2016B
RESOLUTION DESIGNATING CITY OF MT. VERNON, IOWA A BEE CITY USA®

WHEREAS, the goal of *BEE CITY USA* is to promote healthy, sustainable habitats and communities for bees and other pollinators; and

WHEREAS, thanks to the tremendous diversity of wild native bees, along with the honey bees that were brought here from Europe in the 1700s, we have very diverse dietary choices rich in fruits, nuts and vegetables: *"One in every three bites of food we eat is courtesy of insect pollination. Even our meat and milk trace back to insects that pollinate the alfalfa and other feed for beef cattle and cows"* (Mace Vaughan, Pollinator Program Director for the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation); and

WHEREAS, bees and other pollinators around the globe have experienced dramatic declines due to a combination of habitat loss, use of pesticides, and the spread of pests and diseases, with grave implications for the future health of flora and fauna; and

WHEREAS, communities have the opportunity to support bees and other pollinators on both public and private land; and

WHEREAS, supporting pollinators fosters environmental awareness and sustainability, and increases interactions among community stewards such as commercial and backyard beekeepers, farmers, children, educators, Master Naturalists, Master Gardeners, plant nurseries, municipalities, neighborhoods, and garden suppliers and clubs; and

WHEREAS, the economic benefits of (native and honey) bee-friendliness are:

- Healthy ecosystems--insect pollinators are required for pollination and reproduction of about 85% of flowering plants globally, plants that: 1) are vital for clean air and water; 2) provide food, fiber and shelter for people and wildlife; and 3) support the very insects that pollinate our crops and form the basis of food webs.
- Increased vegetable and fruit crop yields due to bee pollination.
- Increased habitat for natural enemies of crop pests and therefore reduced need for and costs associated with pesticides.
- Increased demand for pollinator-friendly plant materials from local nurseries and growers.
- Income earned by beekeepers and others through the sale of bee products, beekeeping equipment and supplies, and hive rentals for pollination; and, heightened prestige and premium asking prices for place-based honey, which enhances the visibility and reputation of its community of origin; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mt. Vernon should be certified a *BEE CITY USA* community because:

- (These will be provided on Monday, Michelle is helping with this language)
- Strong partnerships between the City, School and Cornell College foster a rich tradition of community lead sustainability efforts, including but not limited to rain barrel programs and bio-swale construction.
- XXXX

WHEREAS, ideal pollinator-friendly habitat:

- Provides diverse and abundant nectar and pollen from plants blooming in succession.
- Provides clean water for drinking, nest-building, cooling, diluting stored honey, and butterfly puddling.
- Is pesticide-free or has pesticide use carried out with least ill effects on pollinators.
- Is comprised of mostly, if not all, native species of annual and perennial wildflowers, shrubs, trees, and grasses because many native pollinators prefer or depend on the native plants with which they co-evolved.

[Type here]

- Includes, where possible, designated pollinator zones in public spaces with signage to educate the public and build awareness.
- Provides for safe and humane removal of bees when required.
- Provides undisturbed spaces (leaf and brush piles, un-mowed fields or field margins, fallen trees and other dead wood) for nesting and overwintering for native pollinators; and

WHEREAS, in order to enhance understanding among local government staff and the public about the vital role that pollinators play and what each of us can do to sustain them, Mt. Vernon, Iowa agrees to meet the following commitments required of all *BEE CITY USA* communities:

1) Pass this *BEE CITY USA* **resolution** (which articulates these commitments).

2) Designate a local government department as the Bee City USA sponsor and an employee from that department as the Bee City USA "**liaison**;" and **assign facilitation of the local Bee City USA program** either to a) a new or existing commission or b) a non-profit organization, to encourage and coordinate local pollinator habitat and awareness activities. This body will serve as the intermediary between the citizenry and local government on matters of enhancing pollinator awareness, health and habitat, fulfilling the following commitments:

- o **Annually celebrate** National Pollinator Week (third full week of June) or some other appropriate occasion with educational events, pollinator habitat plantings or restoration, proclamations or promotions that showcase the municipality's commitment to enhancing pollinator health and habitat.
- o Annually **apply for renewal** of the community's designation and submit a report of the previous year's *BEE CITY USA* activities following the format provided.

3) **Publicly acknowledge** the community's commitment by agreeing to a) install/maintain at least one authorized *BEE CITY USA* street sign in a prominent location, and b) create/maintain links on appropriate pages of the local government's website which includes, at minimum, links to a PDF of this signed Resolution and the national *BEE CITY USA* website, contact information for the local government's *BEE CITY USA* liaison and designated "facilitator commission or non-profit organization committee," and reports of the pollinator-friendly activities the community has accomplished the previous year(s).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MT. VERNON CITY COUNCIL THAT:

The CITY OF MT. VERNON, IOWA AND THE MT. VERNON SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION accepts the designation and commits to the standards of *BEE CITY USA*.

Read, approved, and adopted this 20th day of June, 2016.

Sue Ripke, City Clerk

Jamie Hampton, Mayor

[Type here]

AGENDA ITEM # G – 3

**AGENDA INFORMATION
MT. VERNON CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

DATE:	June 20, 2016
AGENDA ITEM:	Resolution 2015 Water Treatment Plan
ACTION:	None

SYNOPSIS: Attached with the resolution is the certificate of completion provided by V&K Engineering for the 2015 Water Treatment Plant Improvements. The total project cost for the improvements is \$476,700. By accepting the resolution, the City is acknowledging the release of the \$23,835 retainage.

BUDGET ITEM: N/A

RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT: City Administrator

MAYOR/COUNCIL ACTION: Motion

ATTACHMENTS: Resolution and Supporting Documents

PREPARED BY: Chris Nosbisch

DATE PREPARED: 6/17/16

RESOLUTION #6-20-2016C

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING WORK FOR THE PROJECT KNOWN AS THE
2015 WATER TREATMENT PLANT IMPROVEMENTS
WITH
PORTZEN CONSTRUCTION, INC.**

WHEREAS, on July 6, 2015 the City of Mt. Vernon entered into a contract with Portzen Construction, Inc. for construction of the 2015 Water Treatment Plant Improvements, and

WHEREAS, said contractor has fully completed the construction of said improvements, known as 2015 Water Treatment Plant Improvements, in accordance with the terms and conditions of the said contract and plans and specifications, as shown by the Engineer's report, and

WHEREAS, the contractor has completed all delivery and payment has been received.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MT. VERNON, IOWA:

Section 1. That letter recommending approval of said improvements from the V&K Engineering firm is hereby accepted as having been fully completed in accordance with said plans, specifications and contract. The total contract cost of the improvements payable under said contract is hereby determined to be \$476,700.00.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MT. VERNON, IOWA: That said retainage of \$23,835.00 be released to Portzen Construction, Inc. as shown in the attached pay application.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 20th day of June, 2016.

Jamie Hampton, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sue Ripke, City Clerk

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

**2015 WATER TREATMENT PLANT IMPROVEMENTS
MOUNT VERNON, IOWA**

June 1, 2016

We hereby certify that we have made an on-site review of the completed construction of the 2015 WATER TREATMENT PLANT IMPROVEMENTS under the Contract as performed by Portzen Construction, Inc. of Dubuque, Iowa.

As Engineers for the project it is our opinion that the work performed is in substantial accordance with the plans and specifications, and that the final amount of the contract is Four Hundred Seventy-Six Thousand Seven Hundred and 00/100 Dollars (\$476,700.00).

VEENSTRA & KIMM, INC.

Accepted: **CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, IOWA**

By 

By _____

Title Project Engineer

Title Mayor

Date June 15, 2016

Date _____



205 STONE VALLEY DRIVE • DUBUQUE, IOWA 52003 • (563) 557-7642 • Fax (563) 557-9048

May 10, 2016

City of Mount Vernon
1128 First Street NW
Mount Vernon, Iowa 52314

RE: #15-20 – City of Mount Vernon 2015 Water Treatment Plant Improvements

Dear City Clerk:

We hereby make a request for early release of retained funds for the City of Mount Vernon 2015 Water Treatment Plant Improvements. Enclosed please find my affidavit in accordance with Section 26.13, Code of Iowa.

If you have any questions, please give me a call.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Michael E. Portzen'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael E. Portzen
President

AFFIDAVIT CONCERNING THE

City of Mount Vernon 2015 Water Treatment Plant Improvements

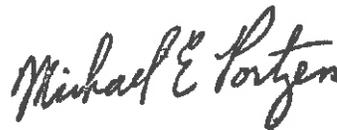
STATE OF IOWA)
) ss:
COUNTY OF DUBUQUE)

The undersigned, being first duly sworn on oath deposes and states:

1. That this Affidavit is given pursuant to Section 26.13, Code of Iowa.
2. That the undersigned is a contractor for the Public Improvement project known as the City of Mount Vernon 2015 Water Treatment Plant Improvements.
3. That said project is substantially completed.
4. The undersigned contractor has served written notice on each known subcontractor, sub-subcontractor, and supplier that provided labor or materials for this public improvement project, and with said notice, a copy of which is attached hereto, was delivered on or about April 29, 2016, at least ten days prior to the date of this Affidavit.
5. That pursuant to Section 26.13, Code of Iowa, the undersigned contractor hereby requests the City of Mount Vernon, Iowa to release the partial funds retained for this project.

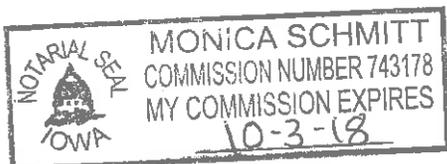
Dated this 10th day of May, 2016.

PORTZEN CONSTRUCTION, INC.



By: Michael E. Portzen, President

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a Notary Public in and for the State of Iowa, by Michael E. Portzen, to me known to be the President of Portzen Construction, Inc., and Iowa Corporation.



By: Monica Schmitt
Notary Public



205 STONE VALLEY DRIVE • DUBUQUE, IOWA 52003 • (563) 557-7642 • Fax (563) 557-9048

April 29, 2016

**NOTICE OF CONTRACTOR'S REQUEST FOR EARLY
RELEASE OF RETAINED FUNDS**

You are hereby notified that Portzen Construction, Inc. will be requesting an early release of funds on a public improvement project designated as **City of Mount Vernon, 2015 Water Treatment Plant Improvements** for which you have or may have provided labor or materials. The request will be made pursuant to Iowa Code Section 26.13. The request may be filed with the **City of Mount Vernon, Iowa** after ten calendar days from the date of this notice. The purpose of this request is to have the **City of Mount Vernon, Iowa** release and pay funds for all work that has been performed and charged to the **City of Mount Vernon, Iowa** as of the date of this notice. This notice is provided in accordance with Iowa Code Section 26.13.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Michael E. Portzen'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Michael E. Portzen
President

AGENDA ITEM # G – 4

**AGENDA INFORMATION
MT. VERNON CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

DATE:	June 20, 2016
AGENDA ITEM:	Resolution 2016 Pool Filters and Heaters
ACTION:	None

SYNOPSIS: Attached with the resolution is the certificate of completion provided by V&K Engineering for the 2016 Pool Filter and Heater Improvements. The total project cost for the improvements is \$101,486.96. By accepting the resolution, the City is acknowledging the release of the \$5,074.35 retainage. As stated by the Mayor, the pool was able to open one day early so there is no recommendation to charge damages for delays.

BUDGET ITEM: N/A

RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT: City Administrator

MAYOR/COUNCIL ACTION: Motion

ATTACHMENTS: Resolution and Supporting Documents

PREPARED BY: Chris Nosbisch

DATE PREPARED: 6/17/16

RESOLUTION #6-20-2016D

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING WORK FOR THE PROJECT KNOWN AS THE
2016 SWIMMING POOL IMPROVMENTS
WITH
DUBUQUE PLUMBING AND HEATING**

WHEREAS, on March 7, 2016 the City of Mt. Vernon entered into a contract with Dubuque Plumbing and Heating for construction of the Pool Filters and Heaters of the 2016 Swimming Pool Improvements, and

WHEREAS, said contractor has fully completed the construction of said improvements, known as Pool Filters and Heaters of the 2016 Swimming Pool Improvements, in accordance with the terms and conditions of the said contract and plans and specifications, as shown by the Engineer's report, and

WHEREAS, the contractor has completed all delivery and payment has been received.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MT. VERNON, IOWA:

Section 1. That letter recommending approval of said improvements from the V&K Engineering firm is hereby accepted as having been fully completed in accordance with said plans, specifications and contract. The total contract cost of the improvements payable under said contract is hereby determined to be \$101,486.96.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MT. VERNON, IOWA: That said retainage of \$5,074.35 be released to Dubuque Plumbing and Heating as shown in the attached pay application.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 20th day of June, 2016.

Jamie Hampton, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sue Ripke, City Clerk

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION

**2016 SWIMMING POOL IMPROVEMENTS
POOL FILTERS & HEATERS
MOUNT VERNON, IOWA**

May 31, 2016

We hereby certify that we have made an on-site review of the completed construction of the 2016 SWIMMING POOL IMPROVEMENTS – POOL FILTERS & HEATERS under the Contract as performed by Dubuque Plumbing & Heating of Dubuque, Iowa.

As Engineers for the project it is our opinion that the work performed is in substantial accordance with the plans and specifications, and that the final amount of the contract is One Hundred One Thousand Four Hundred Eighty-Six and 96/100 Dollars (\$101,486.96).

VEENSTRA & KIMM, INC.

Accepted: **CITY OF MOUNT VERNON, IOWA**

By 
Title Project Engineer
Date June 15, 2016

By _____
Title Mayor
Date _____

AGENDA ITEM # G – 5

**AGENDA INFORMATION
MT. VERNON CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

DATE:	June 20, 2016
AGENDA ITEM:	Resolution Setting Salaries
ACTION:	None

SYNOPSIS: Attached is the resolution setting salaries for all department heads (non-union). The raise increase proposed in the resolution is 2.75%, which is the increase given to the union personnel.

BUDGET ITEM: Budgeted

RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT: City Administrator

MAYOR/COUNCIL ACTION: Motion

ATTACHMENTS: Resolution

PREPARED BY: Chris Nosbisch

DATE PREPARED: 6/17/16

RESOLUTION #6-20-2016E

**RESOLUTION SETTING THE SALARIES FOR THE APPOINTED OFFICERS AND
EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF MT. VERNON, FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017.**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MT. VERNON, IOWA:

SECTION 1. The following persons and positions shall be paid salaries or wages indicated and the City Clerk is authorized to issue warrants less legally required authorized deductions from the amounts set out below, bi-weekly or monthly; and make such contributions to IPERS and FICA and other purposes as required by law or authorization of the Council, subject to audit and review by the City Council:

Police:	Current	Effective July 1, 2016
Shannon, Doug	\$75,052.68	\$77,116.63
Public Works:		
Nissen, Nick	\$66,500.00	\$68,328.75
Volkov, Alex	\$68,290.63	\$70,168.62
Administration:		
Nosbisch, Chris	\$93,000.00	\$93,000.00
Ripke, Sue	\$68,290.63	\$70,168.62
Parks, Recreation & Pool:		
Siders, Matt	\$50,491.75	\$51,880.27

(Receives an additional \$5,000 for Zoning, no raise has ever been given)

This Resolution shall be effective as of the first pay date in July.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 20th day of June, 2016.

Jamie Hampton, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sue Ripke, City Clerk/Deputy City Administrator

H. Mayoral Proclamation



Olympic Day Proclamation **June 23, 2016**

- Whereas,** for over 100 years, the Olympic movement has built a more peaceful and better world by educating young people through amateur athletics, by bringing together athletes from many countries in friendly competition, and by forging new relationships bound by friendship, solidarity, and fair play;
- Whereas,** the United States Olympic Committee is dedicated to coordinating and developing amateur athletic activity in the United States to foster productive working relationships among sports-related organizations;
- Whereas,** the City of Mount Vernon promotes and supports amateur athletic activities involving Olympic and Paralympic sport;
- Whereas,** the City of Mount Vernon promotes and encourages physical fitness and public participation in amateur athletic activities;
- Whereas,** the City of Mount Vernon assists organizations and persons concerned with sports in the development of athletic programs for able-bodied and disabled athletes regardless of age, race, or gender;
- Whereas,** June 23 is the anniversary of the founding of the modern Olympic movement, representing the date on which the Congress of Paris approved the proposal of Pierre de Coubertin to found the modern Olympics:

Now, Therefore, I, _____, Mayor of the City of Mount Vernon, do hereby proclaim with much appreciation and admiration, June 23, 2016 as

Olympic Day

in the City of Mount Vernon and urge all citizens to observe such anniversary with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Mount Vernon to be affixed this 23rd day of June 2016.

Mayor



OLYMPIC DAY

J. Motions for Approval

CITY OF MOUNT VERNON
CLAIMS FOR APPROVAL, JUNE 20, 2016

MOUNT VERNON BANK & TRUST CO	EMPLOYEEE BENEFIT TRANSFER	298,289.67
MOUNT VERNON, CITY OF	ZERO OUT CIP FUNDS TRANSFER	221,184.11
PAYROLL	CLAIMS	69,336.44
MOUNT VERNON BANK & TRUST CO	LAW/EMERG LEVY TRANSFER	35,044.49
GROUP SERVICES INC	INSURANCE-ALL DEPTS	25,931.47
RACOM CORPORATION	NEW VEHICLE/LIGHT,SIREN PKG-PD	10,013.62
ELLIS IMPLEMENT INC	BUSH HOG/BOOM MOWER-RUT	6,900.00
TREASURER STATE OF IOWA	SALE TAX	3,553.00
ALLIANT IES UTILITIES	ENERGY USAGE-ST LIGHTS	3,152.76
CARPENTER UNIFORM CO.	UNIFORMS-PD	2,331.94
IOWA LEAGUE OF CITIES	ANNUAL DUES-P&A	2,220.00
STATE HYGIENIC LAB	TESTING-SEW	1,921.00
ALLIANT IES UTILITIES	ENERGY USAGE-WAT	1,644.89
MOUNT VERNON BANK & TRUST CO	20% OF CEMETERY SALES	1,440.00
MIDWEST ELECTRONIC RECOVERY	BULKY ITEM DROP OFF-SW	1,298.40
WAPSI WASTE SERVICE	BULKY ITEM DROP OFF	1,295.00
ALLIANT IES UTILITIES	ENERGY USAGE-POOL	1,287.81
MOORE MEDICAL CORP.	C.A.T. TURNIQUET-EMA	1,250.00
P&K MIDWEST INC	SICKLE MOWER MAINT-RUT	1,036.22
SITE ONE LANDSCAPE SUPPLY	3RD & 5TH AVE NW PROJECT	993.51
WEX BANK	FUEL-PD,PW	960.13
SAM'S CLUB #8162	SUPPLIES-POOL	793.54
THOMPSON TRUCK & TRAILER INC	2015 INTN'L 7400 REPAIRS-PW	738.54
ALLIANT IES UTILITIES	ENERGY USAGE-P&A	659.19
BARNYARD SCREEN PRINTER LLC	T-SHIRTS-POOL	540.00
TRUENORTH COMPANIES	EMPLOYEE THEFT/FORGERY POLICY	531.00
BROWNELLS INC	RIFLE OPTIC-PD	432.00
CAMPBELL SUPPLY CEDAR RAPIDS	CONFINED SPACE FAN-RUT	398.41
ALLIANT IES UTILITIES	ENERGY USAGE-SEW	387.10
ALLIANT IES UTILITIES	ENERGY USAGE-RUT	309.54
MARLOW WHITE	UNIFORMS-EMA	278.75
STAPLES ADVANTAGE	SUPPLIES-P&A	276.51
ALLIANT IES UTILITIES	ENERGY USAGE-FD	219.33
ELLIS IMPLEMENT INC	INSTALL BUSH HOG-RUT	210.00
SITE ONE LANDSCAPE SUPPLY	HYDRO MIX-RUT	206.84
WENDLING QUARRIES	LISBON RD SHUT OFF-WAT	206.59
POOL TECH INC	CONTROLLER VALVE-POOL	193.00
KIRK, BILL	UNIFORMS-PW	183.05
CENTRAL IOWA DISTRIBUTING	SUPPLIES-PW	176.20
ALLIANT IES UTILITIES	ENERGY USAGE-P&REC	168.90
IOWA CODIFICATION INC	CODE UPDATES-P&A	163.00
KONE INC	ELEVATOR MAINT CONTRACT-P&A	160.53
BARNYARD SCREEN PRINTER LLC	T-SHIRTS-PW	140.00
GALLS INC	UNIFORMS-PD	136.51
GALLS INC	UNIFORMS-PD	136.00
CITY TRACTOR CO	GRAVELY MAINT-RUT	127.09
CARPENTER UNIFORM CO.	UNIFORMS-PD	125.00
MENARDS	DIAMOND CUP WHEEL-RUT	119.98
CEDAR RAPIDS TIRE	FRONT TIRES/HUSTLER-RUT	119.72
ALLIANT IES UTILITIES	ENERGY USAGE-PD	118.86
DIESEL TURBO SERVICES INC	RESURFACE BRAKE ROTORS-RUT	110.00
HOLLAND	LOCKER-PD	92.04
MARTIN, KAREN	FLOWERS/5TH AVE PROJECT	87.27
SITE ONE LANDSCAPE SUPPLY	3RD & 5TH AVE NW PROJECT	83.69
ALLIANT IES UTILITIES	ENERGY USAGE-ST LIGHTS	68.43
MIDWEST BREATHING AIR LLC	QRTLY AIR TEST-FD	60.60
SCHIMBERG COMPANY	CONTROLLER VALVES-POOL	60.27

CITY OF MOUNT VERNON
CLAIMS FOR APPROVAL, JUNE 20, 2016

ALLIANT IES UTILITIES	ENERGY USAGE-ST LIGHTS	58.66
POOL TECH INC	CHEMICALS-POOL	57.00
ALLIANT IES UTILITIES	ENERGY USAGE-KMVL	54.61
BALICEK, RITA	CLEANING SERVICE-P&A	52.50
BENHART, SHERRIE	CLEANING SERVICE-P&A	52.50
IOWA ONE CALL	LOCATES-WAT,SEW	51.30
IOWA LAW ENFORCEMENT ACADEMY	TRAINING-PD	50.00
FOREST, KATEY	SUPPLIES-POOL	42.71
AUTO WORX	VEHICLE MAINT-PD	39.75
CENTURY LINK	PHONE CHGS-PD	36.21
AIRGAS INC	CYLINDER RENTAL FEE-RUT,WAT,SEW	28.76
ALLIANT IES UTILITIES	ENERGY USAGE-P&REC	21.83
ALLIANT IES UTILITIES	ENERGY USAGE-EMA	20.28
CAREPRO PHARMACY	SUPPLIES-PD	15.36
BARNYARD SCREEN PRINTER LLC	T-SHIRTS-PW	12.00
ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING CORP	PAGER SERVICE-EMA	11.95
	TOTAL	700,507.36

AGENDA ITEM # J – 2

**AGENDA INFORMATION
MT. VERNON CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

DATE:	June 20, 2016
AGENDA ITEM:	Gary's Foods Driveway Entrance
ACTION:	None

SYNOPSIS: Attached is V&K's estimate for three alternatives to correct the entrance to Gary's Foods. There is one additional alternative to review and that would be to tear out one panel of the approach, and leave the rest intact (estimated to cost around \$12,000). Staff and V&K Engineering are recommending Alternative 2, which removes the existing entrance, fixes the grade and removes the sidewalk component (estimated at \$52,455). Denny has stopped into my office and offered to cover 10% of the total cost if the City moves forward with alternative #2. There is approximately \$76,000 left in the Hwy 30 corridor improvement fund that could be used to cover this expense. My understanding is that this money had been originally earmarked for a feature to be placed in the center of the roundabout.

BUDGET ITEM: Hwy 30 Funds

RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT: City Administrator

MAYOR/COUNCIL ACTION: Motion

ATTACHMENTS: Supporting Documents

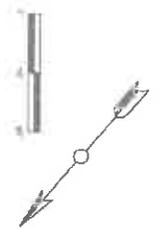
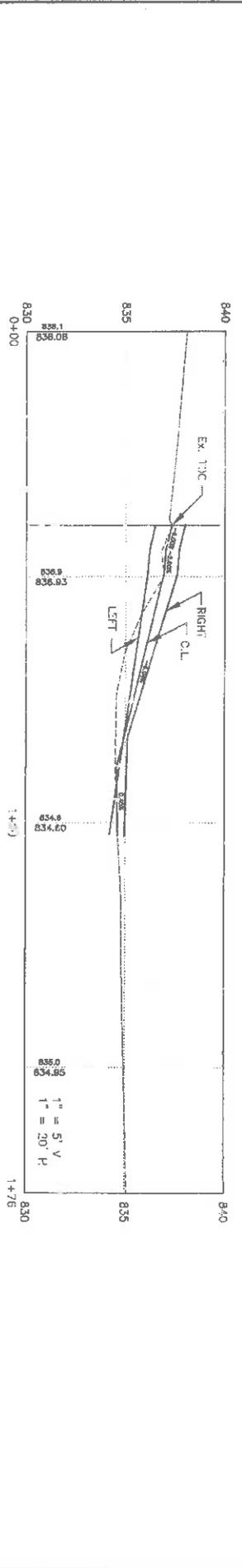
PREPARED BY: Chris Nosbisch

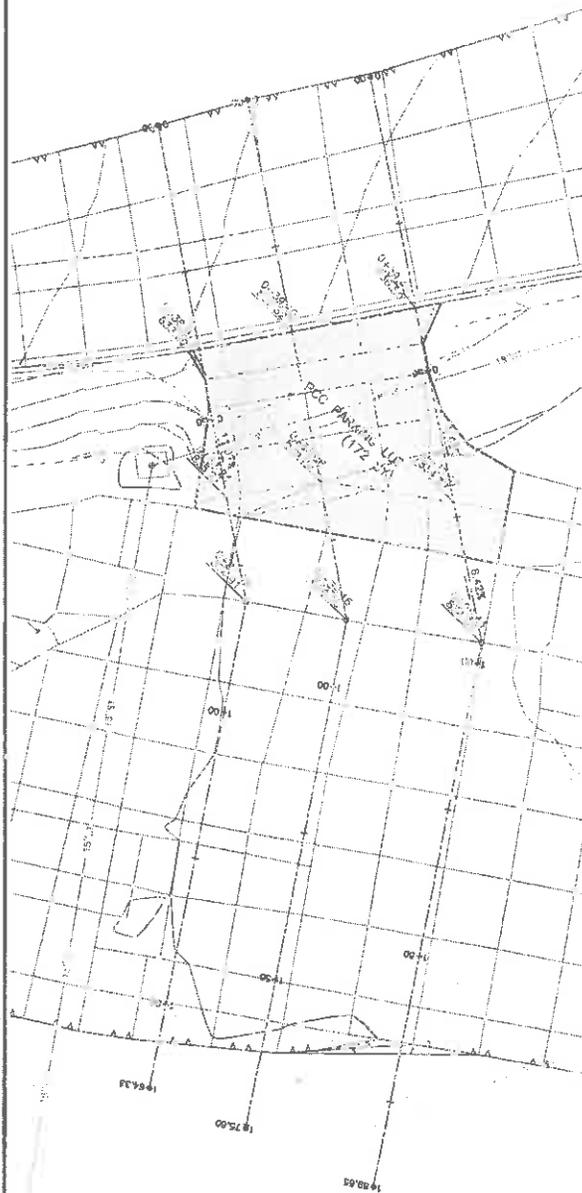
DATE PREPARED: 6/17/16

Opinion of Cost for 2016 Gary's Foods Highway 1 Access Replacement
Mount Vernon, Iowa
6/6/2016

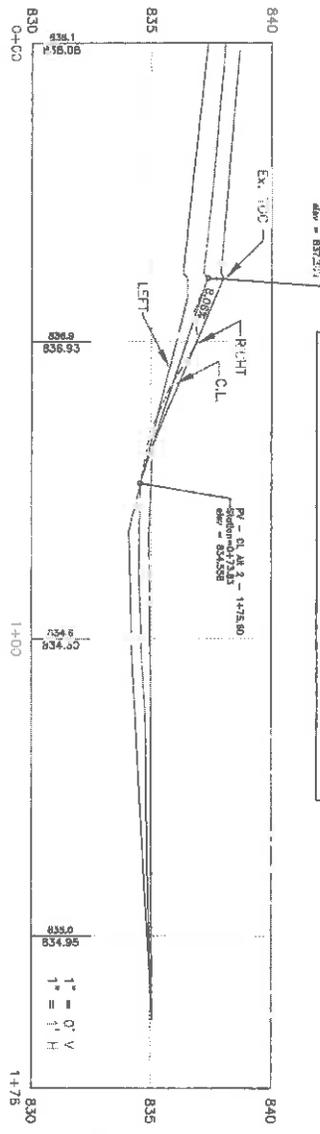
No.	Item Code	Description	Unit	Unit Price	Alternate 1		Alternate 2		Alternate 3	
					Quantity	Extended Price	Quantity	Extended Price	Quantity	Extended Price
1	2102-2713090	EXCAVATION, CL 13, WASTE	CY	\$20.00	20	\$400.00	20	\$400.00	20	\$400.00
2	2105-9425005	TOPSOIL, FURN+SPREAD	CY	\$15.00	25	\$375.00	25	\$375.00	25	\$375.00
3	2415-1240018	CULV, 3000D CONC RDWY PIPE, 18"	LF	\$45.00	34	\$1,530.00	0		0	
4	2435-0740148	MANHOLE, STORM SWR, SW 40T, 48"	EACH	\$2,000.00	1	\$2,000.00	0		0	
5	2435-0251230	INTAKE, SW-512, 30"	EACH	\$1,800.00	1	\$1,800.00	0		0	
6	2507-3250005	ENGINEER FABRIC	SY	\$5.00	450	\$2,250.00	172	\$860.00	123	\$615.00
7	2510-6745880	PAVEMENT, PCC, 8" CLASS C	SY	\$10.00	442	\$4,420.00	172	\$1,720.00	123	\$1,230.00
8	2515-2475008	PAVEMENT, PCC, 8" CLASS C	SY	\$50.00	447	\$22,350.00	172	\$8,600.00	123	\$6,150.00
9	2524-6765010	PAVEMENT, PCC, 8" CLASS C	EACH	\$100.00	2	\$200.00	2	\$200.00	2	\$200.00
10	2527-9283117	PAINTED PAVT MARK, DURABLE	L.S.	\$2,500.00	1.0	\$2,500.00	1.0	\$2,500.00	1.0	\$2,500.00
11	2528-8285000	CONSTRUCTION SURVEY	L.S.	\$2,500.00	1.0	\$2,500.00	1.0	\$2,500.00	1.0	\$2,500.00
12	2533-4980005	MOBILIZATION	LS	\$7,000.00	-	\$7,000.00	-	\$7,000.00	-	\$7,000.00
13	2533-4980005	MOBILIZATION	LS	\$8,000.00	-	\$8,000.00	-	\$8,000.00	-	\$8,000.00
14	2601-2836044	SEED+FERTILIZE (URBAN)	ACRE	\$4,000.00	0.25	\$1,000.00	0.25	\$1,000.00	0.25	\$1,000.00
15	2602-0000306	PERIMETER+SLOPE SEDIMENT CNTL DEVICE, 6"	LF	\$2.00	600	\$1,200.00	600	\$1,200.00	600	\$1,200.00
16	2602-0000350	RMVL OF PERIMETER+SLOPE SEDIMENT CNTL DEV	LF	\$1.00	600	\$600.00	600	\$600.00	600	\$600.00
17	2602-0010010	MOBILIZATION, EROSION CONTROL	EACH	\$500.00	2	\$1,000.00	2	\$1,000.00	2	\$1,000.00
Subtotal						\$61,625.00		\$38,455.00		\$35,270.00
Contingency 10%						\$6,162.50		\$3,845.50		\$3,527.00
Construction Total						\$67,625.00		\$42,455.00		\$39,270.00
ENG						\$7,000.00		\$7,000.00		\$5,000.00
RR						\$4,000.00		\$3,000.00		\$1,000.00
Total Project Cost						\$78,625.00		\$52,455.00		\$45,270.00

REVISIONS		VERIFY SCALE		VERNESTRA & KIMM, INC.		Gary's Foods, Mount Vernon		Gary's Foods, Mount Vernon		PROJECT	
DATE	BY	SCALE	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY	660 22nd Avenue	Mount Vernon, Iowa	660 22nd Avenue	Mount Vernon, Iowa	1	11/27/02
						319-441-1000	319-441-1000	319-441-1000	319-441-1000		



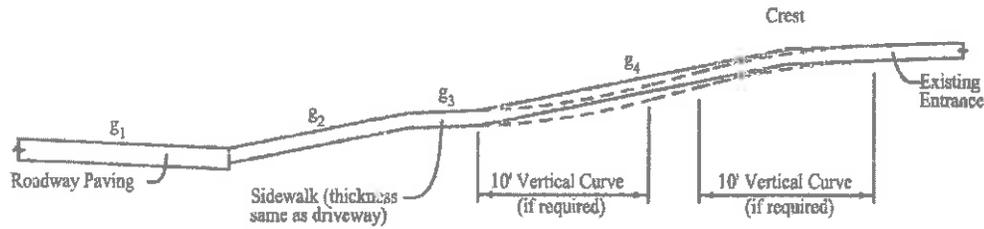


Profile View of CL Alt 2



DATE	REVISIONS	AS NOTED	VERIFY SCALE	VERNSTEIN & KIMM, INC.	Gary's Foods, Hwy 1 Access Mount Vernon, Iowa	Gary's Foods, Mount Vernon Alt 2 No SW Section	DWG. NO.
	ISSUED	REV	DATE	BY	NO. OF SHEETS	TOTAL SHEETS	2
	APPROVED	REV	DATE	BY	NO. OF SHEETS	TOTAL SHEETS	
	PROJECT M.	REV	DATE	BY	NO. OF SHEETS	TOTAL SHEETS	

Figure 5I-4.02A: Typical Section - Commercial/Industrial and Residential Entrance



1. Algebraic Difference Between g_1 and g_2 :
 - a. Commercial/Industrial: Not to exceed 9%
 - b. Residential: Not to exceed 12%
2. Algebraic Difference Between g_2 and g_3 :
 - a. Commercial/Industrial: Not to exceed 6%
 - b. Residential: Not to exceed 8%
3. Maximum Slope of g_3 = 2% (ADA compliance)
4. Algebraic Difference g_3 to g_4 :
 - a. Commercial/Industrial: Not to exceed 5%
 - b. Residential: Not to exceed 8%
 - c. 10 foot vertical curve required for change in grade exceeding 5%
5. Maximum Slope of g_4 :
 - a. Commercial/Industrial: 7%
 - b. Residential: 10%
6. 10 foot vertical curve required for change in grade from g_4 to existing exceeding 5%
7. If the above grade restrictions require a depressed sidewalk through the driveway, a transition section should be provided between the normal sidewalk grade and the depressed section. As a general rule, use the following transition lengths:

Elevation Difference from Normal Sidewalk Grade (inches)	Transition Distance (feet)
1 to 2	8
2 to 4	12
4 to 6	16
Greater than 6	Desirable max. slope is 16:1 Absolute max. slope is 12:1

AGENDA ITEM # J – 3

**AGENDA INFORMATION
MT. VERNON CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

DATE: June 20, 2016

AGENDA ITEM: City Council Goals

ACTION: None

SYNOPSIS: Staff would ask that the Council review the goals and objectives that have been created and formally adopt them for use. If approved, this will be a major component in reviewing staff effectiveness moving forward.

BUDGET ITEM: N/A

RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT: City Administrator

MAYOR/COUNCIL ACTION: Motion

ATTACHMENTS: Goals Memo

PREPARED BY: Chris Nosbisch

DATE PREPARED: 6/17/16



Chris Nosbisch, City Administrator
Douglas Shannon, Chief of Police

Jamie A. Hampton, Mayor

Council:

Eric Roudabush
Paul Tuerler
Marty Christensen
Scott Rose
Tom Wieseler

To: City Council
From: Chris Nosbisch
CC: Department Heads
Subject: Goal Setting
Date: 2/16/16

The Mayor and I have been in discussions regarding the establishment of both citywide and departmental goals. It would be my intent to utilize the goals and objectives set forth by the City Council to establish benchmarks for performance evaluations for staff (myself included). Attached with this memo is the 2013 Municipal Strategic Plan, which can serve as a benchmark for this process. I would ask that you please answer the following questions by March 14, 2016.

- 1.) What is one item that you would like to see addressed over all other issues in the City Administrator's first year?
 - Resumption of sidewalk program
 - o Revise and discuss parameters of program (costs associated with intersection improvements)
 - o Identify additional funding streams
 - o Discuss possible incentive measures to aid in enforcement (possible replacement of incentives)
 - o Lay out implementation plan
 - Facilitate through all appropriate means and in agreement with recommendations in the revised comp plan, the annual construction of residential property with a total valuation at least 4% of the prior year's valuation (focus should be in starter homes, \$200,000 or less)
 - o Establish housing committee
 - o Meet with local landowners and assess their willingness to sell
 - o Meet with developers and establish a list of needs for development
 - o Identify recommending incentives (tax abatement, TIF)
 - Increase residential development
 - o See above
 - Total and complete plan for Hwy. 30 bypass area, include the installation of new and/or upgrade city utilities, etc.
 - o Explore the hiring of a consultant to complete a sub-area plan
 - o Incorporate city utility planning into five year CIP



Chris Nosbisch, City Administrator
Douglas Shannon, Chief of Police

Jamie A. Hampton, Mayor

Council:

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- o Establish design standards per the sub area plan
 - We need to attract business growth in the Hwy. 1 an 30 corridor, fill empty rundown buildings, and create opportunities for new (encourage residential and commercial growth in the community to maintain destination status)
 - o Identify areas of potential redevelopment (abandoned lot or buildings)
 - o Identify roles for City and CDG
- 2.) What do you believe is the biggest concern facing Mt. Vernon currently, infrastructure, housing, Hwy 30, etc.?
- Slow but steady growth based on smart growth principles, and with residential a first priority, and commercial south of town (at by-pass) as the second priority
 - Housing and commercial growth
 - Lack of housing inventory – apartments, lower income homes, condos, \$150,000 to \$300,000
 - Infrastructure and watershed on the North side
 - The bypass but of no less immediate concern is the revision and adoption of the comprehensive plan, moving forward on the community center, stimulating residential growth, conducting a space needs analysis for the city and creating a workable 5 year plan for our infrastructure and parks

Now, in each of the following categories, please list 3-5 items you would like to see addressed by the City over the next 1-2 years. The lists will be combined and reviewed at the March 21, 2016 Council meeting. At this meeting, we will review the lists and determine the top 3-5 priorities for each category.

Economic Development (Creating Tax Base):

- Zoning changes south of current Hwy 30
 - o Complete sub-area plan
 - o Meet with landowners to identify future plans
 - o Identify zoning recommendations to present to planning and zoning
- Begin 80/20 annexation to the south beyond the bypass and look at annexation to the west – based on comp plan
 - o Host town hall meetings with affected property owners
 - o Identify potential annexation boundaries
 - o With city council approval, begin annexation process
- Pursue and support developers/owners of elderly and assisted living facilities for range of care needs, “memory care”
 - o Make contact with developers that are currently completing tax credit projects in neighboring cities



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- Identify locations for possible projects (work with landowners)
- Develop more housing options (use tax incentives)
 - o Identify willing developers
 - o Look at nearby communities – identify which communities are offering incentives
 - o Study the ramifications from offering TIF or tax abatement for projects
- Housing Commission
 - o Establish the commission parameters (who, what, when, how many, etc.)
 - o Seek gender qualified individuals to fill positions
 - o Formal adoption of commission by City Council
- Conduct an analysis on the old fire station and look into selling it
 - o See space needs assessment

Transportation (Streets, Trails, Sidewalks, etc.):

- Sidewalks - Restart the sidewalk rehab program
 - o Refer to the Community Vision Project recommendations for portions of sidewalk that need to be completed
- Prioritize and complete street repairs based upon plan(five year) – fix streets before we take on more development (work equal to the annual expected RUT revenue)
 - o Identify projects that can be funded with existing bonds
 - o Cautiously utilize remaining Lost III funding
 - o Explore alternative funding sources – grand, franchise fees, etc
 - o Ensure maintenance in the form of crack-sealing, sealcoat, etc. continues annually as part of CIP
- Develop additional trail connections (work to link MV with larger trail system) - trail and crossing from the nature park to Oakridge west side arterial study)
 - o Complete trails projects annually per comp and P&R plans with average annual investment of \$75,000
 - o Establish and label bike routes, become a biking destination
- Begin 2nd program to add sidewalks where they are not existing
 - o Establish funding sources
 - o Identify all areas where sidewalks are currently missing
 - o Create informational brochure to inform residences of possible action
- Properly manage the growth of the Hwy 30 corridor, making Hwys. 1 and 30 attractive to the community
 - o Incorporate design standards in the corridor planning for each hwy.
- Begin talks/remain open to ride sharing opportunities with large employers (i.e. the UI ride vans)



Mount
Vernon
IOWA

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-
- Provide and promote non-auto transportation (trails)

Utilities (Water, Wastewater, Storm Water, Gas, Electric, Garbage, etc.):

- Update utility maps
 - Need to contract with a firm to update existing maps
 - Purchase hand held units that can be uploaded into the GIS system
 - Look at upgrading the mapping printer
- Promote development of renewable energy
 - Work with the Sustainability Committee to explore renewable energy options
 - Work with zoning to explore including renewable energy options into code and/or using tax incentives to push renewable options
- Find and remedy 80% of the sewer infiltration issues on the NE and NW side
 - Need to complete a review of storm water utility rates – identify projects can be done to reduce I&I
- Consider solar panels or small scale wind turbine, for providing City energy
 - Have City Hall and Fire Station reviewed for structural soundness (for the placement of roof panels)
 - Consider overall project costs vs. monies brought in from net metering
 - Continue to explore options with Alliant Energy on small scale pilot projects – community solar
- Update water, sewer, gas, electric lines with street repairs
 - Review each CIP project to determine true costs of all upgrades
 - Annually review enterprise funds to include capital project funds
 - Work with ITC and Alliant to coordinate projects – supply each entity with CIP project listings

Culture and Recreation (Sports, Parks, Festivals, Programs, etc.):

- Develop additional programs with MV CSD & Cornell College
 - Establish quarterly meetings for all organizations – limit to 1-2 subjects
- Partner with Heritage Days Committee to enhance fundraising (keep celebration viable)
 - Push for a reexamination of Heritage Days
- Create and maintain community garden spaces
 - Identify probable locations – parks and recreation
 - Define community garden and identify stakeholders
- Continue due diligence and reporting on possible wellness/community center – continue to explore benefits
 - Secure stakeholders



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- o Finalize design specifications according to available funds
- Complete and adopt Master Parks Plan
 - o Currently in review stage
 - o Hold public hearing sat park and recreation level
 - o Formal adoption by the City Council

Public Safety (Police, Fire, Ambulance, etc.):

- Develop a single law enforcement agency with Lisbon - cost savings vs. benefits
 - o Identify Council goals/vision for each City (costs/benefits/concerns for each community)
 - o Combine goals and vision into a single plan to educate communities
 - o Measure community interest in combining service
 - o Develop plan of action for transition if Councils support combining
- Revisit opportunities for single fire dept. with Lisbon, MV, & Linn County FD #1
 - o Determine if the building is structurally sound and usable for the City needs
 - o Accurate estimation for renovation
 - o Identify existence of other interest in property/selling it?
- Determine use of old fire station (if not PD)
 - o Determine department interest (both Lisbon and Mt. Vernon) and identify specific needs from each entity
 - o Measure community/Council interest/support
- Police department facilities, office space, evidence storage – refurbish old fire station or build new
 - o Determination of combined police services
 - Combined departments will create an immediate need for new location and significantly increase the need for additional space/storage
 - Combined service with main department and satellite office in Lisbon City Hall
 - o Independent department
 - Space needs are currently beyond capacity (functional for short term; develop an action plan to address issue)
 - Determine improved efficiency and effectiveness of operations in current location
 - Address safety concerns with City Hall/PD sharing space in same building
- Ensure adequate staffing of ambulance service 24/7/365
 - o Identify current issues (specific and articulate reasons for staff shortages)



- Identify possible incentives to increase volunteer staffing
- Hire additional paid EMT's to staff during identified shortage times
- Evaluate combining Ambulance with Fire departments
 - Combine pool of volunteers
 - City EMS service – Insurance billing/revenues handled by City?

The following is an on-going effort that did not receive votes but has been included:

- Monitor dispatch and communication issues passed down by the County

Administration:

- Go to Electric Council packets
 - Council has approved the purchase of tablets – will make the transition as soon as tablets are delivered
- Adopt comp plan and begin process of revision for zoning ordinance and maps – move forward with goals and objectives
 - Comp Plan is adopted, City Council has approved Zoning revisions (approximately 11 months to completion)
- Reduce energy consumption by City by 20%
 - Meet with Alliant to identify heavy energy use (Review audit of 2014)
 - Review programs that the City may take advantage of for costs
 - Identify funding sources
 - Continue looking into alternative lighting (less energy models)
- Continue to increase efficiency and minimize costs in public works dep.
 - Establish, with Council, the necessary programs they would like to supply for the public
 - Space needs vs. efficiency – establish if there is a correlation
 - Continue to evaluate personnel, holding each individual accountable
- Promotion of development
 - Need to define development objectives – is this a partnership with CDG
 - Need to identify how aggressive the Council would like staff to be in promoting development
 - TIF based tax incentives
 - Tax abatement, etc.
- Annual review of 2013 strategic plan
 - Staff review each July with Council
 - 2nd review in June to assess progress
 - Incorporation of strategic plan and this document into annual department head reviews
- Get control of health & disability insurance/claims



- Continue to explore options with personnel – changes to plans to reduce cost
- Continue established safety training – 90% or better attendance to monthly safety training
- All necessary workers to become “competent people” per OSHA standards
- Possible incentives for no loss hours in a 90 day window
- Professional development – training/skills building, positive work environment, respected employer
 - Assure that all department heads are attending State recognized organizations in their field
 - Look to cross training options for staff – provide training as necessary
 - Create an atmosphere of safe and respectable

Community Betterment (Historic Preservation, Streetscapes, Wayfinding, etc.):

- Improve signage to public parking areas
 - Signage to guide people uptown (perhaps to coincide with the bypass)
 - Redo the signs at the MV Road and 1st Street entrances to the city
 - Welcome signage w/ Hwy 30 by-pass
 - Improvements to uptown parking areas as planned, add signage for them, etc.
 - Work with sub-committee of CDG on wayfinding recommendations
- Add all trees and streetscape features as planned but not yet complete
 - Review streetscape plan for project prioritization
 - Include projects into CIP – trying to utilize existing funds each year
- Support HP without infringing on residences sovereignty
 - Review code sections at the same time zoning is being completed
 - Identify necessary regulations and possible points where the city is perceived to overreach
- Continue to implement uptown streetscape plan
 - Review streetscape plan for project prioritization
 - Include projects into CIP – trying to utilize existing funds each year
- Adopt rental regulations to protect community (renters, landlords, and neighbors)
 - Need to identify enforcement possibilities (in-house vs. contracted)
 - Identify if this is a part of the Housing Commission duties or new committee formation
 - If new committee (my suggestion) then establish the commission and parameters



- Look at International Code for possible adoption

Miscellaneous:

- Find ways to increase community involvement in city government
 - Possible additions to website – “report a problem,” or “suggestions for making the community better”
- Build relationships with Lisbon
 - Similar to college and school district – establish quarterly meetings with staff and Mayor and/or Council
- Consider listening posts by CA or Council on an occasional Saturday – especially if there are large projects
 - Precedent has been established during comp plan revisions
 - Listening posts focusing on certain topic initiated quarterly – topics include
 - Capital Improvement Planning
 - Zoning code updates
 - By-pass sub area
 - Park improvements
 - Sustainability efforts
 - Annexation
 - Challenges and opportunities for the City – what do you want from your city
- Bee City listing
 - Establish resolution setting Bee City designation
- Sustainability incentives
 - Continue to look at community solar
 - Stormwater and I&I issues – rain barrels, bio swales, incorporation into parks
- Look to set aside funds for Palisades RD reconstruction after Hwy. 30 by-pass is complete
 - Needs to be completed as part of CIP – part of the larger street funding discussion

If you have any questions, please feel free to let me know.

AGENDA ITEM # J – 4

**AGENDA INFORMATION
MT. VERNON CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

DATE: June 20, 2016

AGENDA ITEM: Pay Application #3

ACTION: None

SYNOPSIS: Enclosed is pay application #3 for the 2015 water treatment plant improvements. The pay application is in the amount of \$23,835 and will be the final pay application for this project.

BUDGET ITEM: Water/Bond

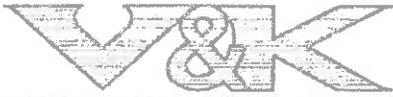
RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT: City Administrator

MAYOR/COUNCIL ACTION: Motion

ATTACHMENTS: Supporting Documents

PREPARED BY: Chris Nosbisch

DATE PREPARED: 6/17/16



June 14, 2016

PAY ESTIMATE NO. 3 (Final)
2015 WATER TREATMENT PLANT IMPROVEMENTS
MOUNT VERNON, IOWA

Portzen Construction, Inc.
 205 Stone Valley Drive
 Dubuque, IA 52003

Contract Amount \$474,500.00
 Contract Date July 20, 2015
 Pay Period Mar. 23, 2016 - April 22, 2016

BID ITEMS							
	Description	Unit	Estimated Quantity	Unit Price	Extended Price	Quantity Completed	Value Completed
1	Bonds	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 5,184.00	100%	\$ 5,184.00
2	Mobilization	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 30,566.00	100%	\$ 30,566.00
3	Project Superintendent	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 3,200.00	100%	\$ 3,200.00
4	Project Manager	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 3,600.00	100%	\$ 3,600.00
5	Port-a-potty rental	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 300.00	100%	\$ 300.00
6	Trash Disposal	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 1,600.00	100%	\$ 1,600.00
7	Temporary Roof	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 3,500.00	100%	\$ 3,500.00
8	Temporary Dust Walls	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 500.00	100%	\$ 500.00
9	Safety	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 250.00	100%	\$ 250.00
10	Daily Cleaning	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 1,100.00	100%	\$ 1,100.00
11	Final Cleaning	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 600.00	100%	\$ 600.00
12	Construction Road	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 500.00	100%	\$ 500.00
13	Tree Removal	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 1,700.00	100%	\$ 1,700.00
14	Demo - Old Tank	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 15,000.00	100%	\$ 15,000.00
15	Demo - Roof Shingles	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 3,000.00	100%	\$ 3,000.00
16	Re-grading lawn areas	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 1,000.00	100%	\$ 1,000.00
17	Re-seeding	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 500.00	100%	\$ 500.00
18	Capentry Materials	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 1,500.00	100%	\$ 1,500.00
19	Capentry Install	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 4,000.00	100%	\$ 4,000.00
20	Batt Insulation - Material	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 220.00	100%	\$ 220.00
21	Batt Insulation - Install	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 400.00	100%	\$ 400.00
22	Roof Felt - Material	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 200.00	100%	\$ 200.00
23	Roof Felt - Install	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 190.00	100%	\$ 190.00
24	Ice and Water - Material	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 200.00	100%	\$ 200.00
25	Ice and Water - Install	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 190.00	100%	\$ 190.00
26	Roofing - General Conditions	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 5,350.00	100%	\$ 5,350.00
27	Roofing - Materials	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 11,770.00	100%	\$ 11,770.00
28	Roofing - Install	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 9,630.00	100%	\$ 9,630.00
29	Joint Sealants	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 500.00	100%	\$ 500.00

	Description	Unit	Estimated Quantity	Unit Price	Extended Price	Quantity Completed	Value Completed
30	Drywall - Materials	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 400.00	100%	\$ 400.00
31	Drywall - Labor	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 1,800.00	100%	\$ 1,800.00
32	Drywall - Mud & Taping	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 1,000.00	100%	\$ 1,000.00
33	Painting	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 1,000.00	100%	\$ 1,000.00
34	Aerator Tank - Material	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 296,750.00	100%	\$ 296,750.00
35	Aerator Tank - Installation	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 35,000.00	100%	\$ 35,000.00
36	Aerator Tank - Crane	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 6,000.00	100%	\$ 6,000.00
37	Membrane Layer Below Tank	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 500.00	100%	\$ 500.00
38	Filter Media - Install	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 2,000.00	100%	\$ 2,000.00
39	Start-up	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 2,000.00	100%	\$ 2,000.00
40	Process Piping	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 17,000.00	100%	\$ 17,000.00
41	Electrical	LS	xxxxx	xxxxx	\$ 4,800.00	100%	\$ 4,800.00
Contract Price:					\$ 474,500.00		\$ 474,500.00

MATERIALS STORED SUMMARY			
Description	# of Units	Unit Price	Extended Cost
Total			\$ -

SUMMARY		
	Total Approved	Total Completed
Contract Price	\$ 474,500.00	\$ 474,500.00
Approved Change Order (list each)		
Change Order No. 1	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 2,200.00
Revised Contract Price	\$ 476,700.00	\$ 476,700.00

Stored
Total Earned \$ 476,700.00
Retainage (5%) \$ -
Total Earned Less Retainage \$ 476,700.00

Total Previously Approved (list each)		
Pay Estimate No. 1	\$ 335,986.19	
Pay Estimate No. 2	\$ 116,878.81	

Total Previously Approved \$ 452,865.00
Amount Due This Request \$ 23,835.00

Percent Complete 100%

The amount \$23,835.00 is recommended for approval for payment in accordance with the terms of the contract.

Prepared By:
Portzen Construction, Inc.

Recommended By:
Veenstra & Kimm, Inc.

Approved By:
Mount Vernon, Iowa

Signature: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____
Date: _____

Signature: *Dave Schechinger*
Name: Dave Schechinger
Title: Engineer
Date: June 14, 2016

Signature: _____
Name: _____
Title: _____
Date: _____

AGENDA ITEM # J – 5

**AGENDA INFORMATION
MT. VERNON CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

DATE: June 20, 2016

AGENDA ITEM: Change Order #1 - Pool

ACTION: None

SYNOPSIS: Attached is change order #1, which is a deduct in the amount of \$2,413.04. The pool filters will need to be painted this fall, but City staff will wait to have the work completed until after the pool is closed for the year.

BUDGET ITEM: N/A

RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT: City Administrator

MAYOR/COUNCIL ACTION: Motion

ATTACHMENTS: Change Order #1

PREPARED BY: Chris Nosbisch

DATE PREPARED: 6/17/16



VEENSTRA & KIMM, INC.

860 22nd Avenue, Suite 4 • Coralville, Iowa 52241-1565
319-466-1000 • 319-466-1008(FAX) • 888-241-8001(WATS)

June 15, 2016

CHANGE ORDER NO. 1

2016 SWIMMING POOL IMPROVEMENTS
POOL FILTERS & HEATERS
MOUNT VERNON, IOWA

Change Order No. 1 is for the following modifications to the project:

- 1. Remove painting of new filters from contract – City will work directly with painter in fall to paint new filters and touch up areas on old filters. LS \$ (3,024.00)
 - 2. Supply and install 2 pipe saddles and 2 commercial thermometers on discharge pipe from pool heaters. LS \$ 610.96
- Total: \$ (2,413.04)

Change Order No. 1 decreases the contract amount by \$ 2,413.04.

DUBUQUE HEATING & PLUMBING

CITY OF MOUNT VERNON

By _____

By _____

Title _____

Title _____

Date _____

Date _____

VEENSTRA & KIMM, INC.

ATTEST:

By *Don Schuff*

By _____

Title Project Engineer

Title _____

Date June 15, 2016

Date _____

AGENDA ITEM # J – 6

**AGENDA INFORMATION
MT. VERNON CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

DATE:	June 20, 2016
AGENDA ITEM:	Pay Application #1 - Pool
ACTION:	None

SYNOPSIS: Attached is pay application #1 in the amount of \$96,412.61. To date, we have had no issue with the filter operation.

BUDGET ITEM: Pool Bond

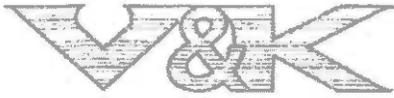
RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT: City Administrator

MAYOR/COUNCIL ACTION: Motion

ATTACHMENTS: Pay Application

PREPARED BY: Chris Nosbisch

DATE PREPARED: 6/17/16



VEENSTRA & KIMM, INC.

860 22nd Avenue, Suite 4 • Coralville, Iowa 52241-1565
319-466-1000 • 319-466-1008(FAX) • 888-241-8001(WATS)

June 14, 2016

PAY ESTIMATE NO. 1
2016 SWIMMING POOL IMPROVEMENTS -
POOL FILTERS & HEATERS
MOUNT VERNON, IOWA

Dubuque Plumbing & Heating
205 Stone Valley Drive
Dubuque, IA 52003

Contract Amount \$103,900.00
Contract Date March 7, 2016
Pay Period

BID ITEMS							
	Description	Unit	Estimated Quantity	Unit Price	Extended Price	Quantity Completed	Value Completed
1.1	Pool filters with valves	Ea.	2	\$ 26,200.00	\$ 52,400.00	100%	\$ 52,400.00
1.2	Piping	LS	1	\$ 23,000.00	\$ 23,000.00	100%	\$ 23,000.00
1.3	6" Butterfly valve	LS	10	\$ 360.00	\$ 3,600.00	100%	\$ 3,600.00
1.4	6" Flexible connector	LS	1	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00	100%	\$ 800.00
1.5	Flow meter	LS	2	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 3,600.00	100%	\$ 3,600.00
1.6	Pool heater (outdoor style with 2" piping and 8 - 2" ball valves)	LS	2	\$ 10,250.00	\$ 20,500.00	100%	\$ 20,500.00
Contract Price:					\$ 103,900.00		\$ 103,900.00

SUMMARY			
		Total Approved	Total Completed
Contract Price		\$ 103,900.00	\$ 103,900.00
Approved Change Order (list each)	Change Order No. 1	\$ (2,413.04)	\$ (2,413.04)
Revised Contract Price		\$ 101,486.96	\$ 101,486.96

Stored

Total Earned \$ 101,486.96

Retainage (5%) \$ 5,074.35

Total Earned Less Retainage \$ 96,412.61

Total Previously Approved (list each)			
---------------------------------------	--	--	--

Total Previously Approved \$

Percent Complete 100%

Amount Due This Request \$ 96,412.61

The amount \$96,412.61 is recommended for approval for payment in accordance with the terms of the contract.

Prepared By:
Dubuque Plumbing & Heating

Recommended By:
Veenstra & Kimm, Inc.

Approved By:
Mount Vernon, Iowa

Signature: _____

Signature:  _____

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Name: Dave Schechinger

Name: _____

Title: _____

Title: Engineer

Title: _____

Date: _____

Date: June 14, 2016

Date: _____

AGENDA ITEM # J – 7

**AGENDA INFORMATION
MT. VERNON CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

DATE:	June 20, 2016
AGENDA ITEM:	Purchase of Mower
ACTION:	None

SYNOPSIS: Staff was able to set aside funds in this fiscal year to replace one of the three mowers that we have in operation. After consulting with Nick, we are recommending a Hustler 104” deck mower (double the size of our existing mowers). The mower has a rear discharge deck and was able to cut the grass in the outfield of the Davis Park diamond in four minutes. Staff is estimating that the new mower will help reduce mowing days needed, in turn, allowing Nick to use summer labor in other areas of the City. The larger mower will be allocated to the large open areas within the park while the smaller mowers complete the trimming.

BUDGET ITEM: N/A

RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT: Public Works

MAYOR/COUNCIL ACTION: Motion

ATTACHMENTS: Supporting Documents

PREPARED BY: Chris Nosbisch

DATE PREPARED: 6/17/16

WALKER AG EQUIPMENT

935 W HWY 30
LISBON IA 52253

Quote

Date	Quote #
6/8/2016	46

Name / Address
CITY OF MOUNT VERNON 213 WEST 1ST STREET MOUNT VERNON, IA 52314

Rep	Project
AJM	

Description	Qty	Total
SUPER 104 EFI	1	22,945.50
MULCH KIT 104	1	295.00
SUPER Z FLEX FORKS	1	295.00
Sales Tax		0.00
Total		\$23,535.50

AGENDA ITEM # J – 8

**AGENDA INFORMATION
MT. VERNON CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

DATE: June 20, 2016

AGENDA ITEM: Security Cameras

ACTION: None

SYNOPSIS: The public works department is looking to place four security cameras around its building. The City has been having some issues with people illegally dumping garbage and siphoning gas from vehicles. With the amount of expensive equipment that we have sitting outdoors, it makes sense to monitor the facilities. The cameras that we are recommending come from A Tech Beam Team in the amount of \$3,616.55. A total of three quotes were sought for this project.

BUDGET ITEM: Operating Budget

RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT: Public Works

MAYOR/COUNCIL ACTION: Motion

ATTACHMENTS: Supporting Documents

PREPARED BY: Chris Nosbisch

DATE PREPARED: 6/17/16

A Tech Beam Team

A Tech Security & Audio
5741 C Street SW, Suite A
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404

319-848-7171 Cedar Rapids
319-339-0004 Coralville, Iowa City
319-848-7181 Fax

www.atechbt.com

Estimate

DATE	ESTIMATE NO.
6/6/2016	13296

NAME / ADDRESS
City of Mount Vernon ATTN: Nick Nissen 213 First Street Mount Vernon, IA 52314

PROJECT

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	QTY	COST	TOTAL
Job Site Add	CAM - 1040 2nd Avenue NW, Mount Vernon			
Camera Syst...	The following will be provided: 1 - Pro 4 Channel HD DVR 4 - Exterior Color IR Cameras(EACH CORNER OF BUILDING) 1 - Power Supply 1 - Software Package for remote viewing 1 - Color Viewing Monitor 1 - Surge Suppressor NOTES: A. Power by Owner Sales Tax - 7%	1	3,379.95	3,379.95T
			7.00%	236.60

Price quoted is cash payment only. A processing fee may be applied on credit card charges. Prices quoted are subject to sales tax. Ask about our GE Money Store Card and Financing Options.

TOTAL

\$3,616.55

AGENDA ITEM # J – 9

**AGENDA INFORMATION
MT. VERNON CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

DATE: June 20, 2016

AGENDA ITEM: Set Public Hearing Date – Chapter 48

ACTION: None

SYNOPSIS: This is the time to set a public hearing date for the first meeting in July to consider a social host ordinance. Chief Shannon has been reviewing this ordinance over the course of the year and the City Attorney has finalized the proposed language.

BUDGET ITEM: N/A

RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT: Police Chief

MAYOR/COUNCIL ACTION: Motion

ATTACHMENTS: Proposed Ordinance

PREPARED BY: Chris Nosbisch

DATE PREPARED: 6/17/16

AN ORDINANCE

RELATING TO THE PROVISION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES OR CONTROLLED
SUBSTANCES BY ADULTS TO UNDERAGE PERSONS AT SOCIAL GATHERINGS
AND PROVIDING PENALTIES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MOUNT VERNON,
IOWA:

Section 1. Purpose.

Pursuant to the authority granted under Iowa Code section 364, this Ordinance is enacted to protect and preserve the rights, privileges, and property of the residents of Mount Vernon and to preserve and improve the peace, safety, health, welfare, comfort, and convenience of the residents of Mount Vernon. The purpose of this ordinance is to prohibit the consumption of controlled substances including any synthetic versions or alcoholic beverages by persons under the age of twenty-one at gatherings where adult persons knowingly tolerate, allow, or permit the illegal possession and consumption of controlled substances or alcoholic beverages by persons under the age of twenty-one (21) on property they own or control.

The City Counsel of Mount Vernon finds that the occurrence of social gatherings at premises where alcoholic beverages are being possessed, served to, or consumed by persons under the age of twenty-one (21) or where controlled substances including any synthetic versions are being illegally possessed, served, or consumed by any persons is harmful to such persons themselves and a threat to public welfare, health, and safety.

The City Counsel of Mount Vernon further finds that adult persons who are in control of premises where a gathering is taking place and either knowingly tolerate, allow, or permit the illegal possession and consumption of controlled substances by

any persons or alcoholic beverages by persons under the age of twenty-one (21) are not fulfilling their responsibility to ensure public welfare, health, and safety. This ordinance will establish penalties for adult persons who knowingly tolerate, allow, or permit the illegal possession and consumption of controlled substances by any persons or alcoholic beverages by persons under the age of twenty-one (21) to ensure that all hosts of social gatherings confirm that those activities are not occurring on premises under their control.

Section 2. Definitions.

a. "Adult Person" means any person age eighteen (18) or older.

b. "Juvenile" means any person under the age of eighteen (18).

c. "Parent" means any person having legal custody of a juvenile:

(1) As a natural parent, adoptive parent, or stepparent; or

(2) As a legal guardian; or

(3) As a person to whom legal custody has been given by order of the court.

d. "Underage person" means any individual under the age of twenty-one (21).

e. "Alcoholic Beverage" means any beverage containing more than one half of one percent of alcohol by volume including alcoholic liquor, wine, or beer.

f. "Premises" means any home, yard, farm, field, land, apartment, condominium, hotel, or motel room or other dwelling unit, hall or meeting, park or any other place of assembly, public or private, whether occupied on a temporary or permanent basis, whether occupied as a dwelling or specifically, for a

party or other social function, and whether owned, leased, rented, or used with or without permission or compensation. "Premises" does not include property that is licensed to sell or serve alcoholic beverages.

g. "Social Gathering" means any group of three (3) or more persons who have assembled or gathered together for a social occasion or other activity.

Section 2. Prohibited Acts.

a. An adult person who is the owner or lessee of, or who otherwise has control over, premises, shall not knowingly tolerate, allow, or permit, during a social gathering:

(1) Any person on such premises to possess or consume controlled substances or synthetic alternatives (As defined by Iowa Code sections 124 and 155A); or

(2) Any person under the age of twenty-one (21) on such premises to possess or consume any alcoholic beverage (As defined by Iowa Code section 123.47(2)).

b. The presence of any adult person who is the owner or lessee of, or who otherwise has control over, a premises during the time that any person possesses or consumes controlled substances or synthetic alternatives or any person under the age of twenty-one (21) possesses or consumes any alcoholic beverages on such property shall be prima facie evidence that such adult had knowledge or should have had the knowledge that such activities were occurring.

c. If a person under the age of eighteen (18) hosts a social gathering and the parent(s) of the person under the age of eighteen (18) knows or reasonably should know of the social gathering and knows or reasonably should know that the consumption or controlled substances or synthetic alternatives by any person or alcoholic beverages by any person under the age

of twenty-one (21) is occurring, the parent(s) shall be liable for violations of this Ordinance.

Section 3. Defenses.

a. It shall be an affirmative defense to this Ordinance if an adult person in control of a premises where a social gathering is taking place takes reasonable steps to prevent the possession and consumption of alcohol by persons under the age of twenty-one (21) and the possession and consumption of controlled substances including any synthetic versions by any persons while on such premises.

b. Reasonable steps include, but are not limited to:

(1) Ensuring that minors do not consume alcoholic beverages by controlling access to alcoholic beverages after verifying the age of persons attending the gathering by inspecting drivers' licenses or other government-issued identification cards; or

(2) Prohibiting the illegal consumption or possession of controlled substances, including the abuse of medications or use of synthetic alternatives at the gathering; or

(3) Supervising the activities of minors at the gathering; or

(4) Notifying law enforcement of any illegal or unsafe activities.

Section 4. Exceptions.

a. This Ordinance does not apply to the following situations:

(1) When an individual's action is permitted under Iowa Code section 123.47(2); or

(2) When alcohol is consumed during a legally protected religious observance; or

(3) When alcohol is consumed solely between an underage person and his or her parents while present in the parents' household; or

(4) When a person who hosts, permits, or allows a social gathering seeks immediate assistance from local law enforcement; or

(5) When landlords have begun and are continuing with the process of evicting tenants who are in violation of this Ordinance.

Section 5. Penalties.

a. A violation of the provisions of this ordinance shall be enforced as a municipal infraction in accordance with Iowa Code section 364.22.

AGENDA ITEM # J – 10

**AGENDA INFORMATION
MT. VERNON CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

DATE:	June 20, 2016
AGENDA ITEM:	Set Public Hearing Date – Chapter 153
ACTION:	None

SYNOPSIS: This is the time to set a public hearing date for the first meeting in July to consider a demolition ordinance. Resident Guy Booth has requested that this Council proceed with reviewing the proposed ordinance that was previously reviewed by the Mt. Vernon Planning Commission.

BUDGET ITEM: N/A

RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT: Planning and Zoning

MAYOR/COUNCIL ACTION: Motion

ATTACHMENTS: Proposed Ordinance

PREPARED BY: Chris Nosbisch

DATE PREPARED: 6/17/16

ORDINANCE#
**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MOUNT
VERNON, IOWA, BY ADDING PROVISIONS PERTAINING TO PROCEDURES FOR
DEMOLITION REVIEW**

Be it enacted by the City Council of the City of Mount Vernon, Iowa:

SECTION 1. NEW SECTION. The Code of Ordinances of the City of Mount Vernon, Iowa, is amended by adding a new Section in Chapter ____, numbered ____, entitled "Demolition Permits", which is hereby adopted to read as follows:

- (1) **Demolition Permit Required.** No building can be demolished without a permit. No permit for the demolition of a building shall be issued other than in conformity with the provisions of this ordinance, as well as in conformity with the provisions of other laws and ordinances applicable to historic preservation and to the demolition of buildings.

- (2) **Application for Permit.** An application for demolition shall be made only by the person, partnership, corporation or realty trust which is the legal deed holder thereof at the time of such application. The applicant must comply with all federal, state and local regulations pertaining to the disposal of hazardous wastes. The application must be made on a form provided by the City of Mount Vernon and must clearly state the following at a minimum:
 - a. How the anticipated final disposition of material will be accomplished in as sustainable manner as possible;
 - b. How any hazardous materials contained within the structure proposed for demolition will be determined and remediated;
 - c. Identifying all material, such as basements, sidewalks, utilities materials, etc., which will not be removed from the property as part of the proposed demolition; and
 - d. A plan and schedule for accomplishing the future use of the planned use of the property upon which the proposed demolition is to occur.

No permit for demolition of a building shall be granted until plans for use or development of the site after demolition have been filed with the Zoning Administrator and found to comply with all laws pertaining to the issuance of a building permit. All approvals necessary for the issuance of such a building permit or certificate of occupancy including without limitation any necessary zoning variances or special permits, must be granted and all appeals from the granting of such approvals must be concluded, prior to the issuance of a demolition permit under this section.

- (3) **Fourteen Day Wait.** The Zoning Administrator shall forward a copy of each application for a demolition permit to the Historic Preservation Commission (Commission) for determination whether the building which is the subject of such application is a historically significant building. A fourteen (14) day wait period shall commence on the date following the date the Commission receives the application for a demolition permit from the Zoning Administrator. Demolition is prohibited during the fourteen day wait period.

- (4) **Initial Review and Determination.** The Historic Preservation Commission shall review the application for demolition at a public meeting of the Commission within the fourteen (14) day wait period. The Commission shall make an initial determination whether the building is a historically significant building using the standards set forth in the then current US Secretary of Interior standards for treatment of historic properties. The website for the standards is: www.nps.gov/tps/standards.htm . The Commission shall make written findings regarding whether the building is historically significant and recommend the grant or denial of the permit.

If during the fourteen (14) day wait period, the Commission makes an initial determination that the building is a historically significant building, the Zoning Administrator shall be so advised, and no demolition permit or building permits for new construction shall be issued unless and until a final determination has been made that the building is not a historically significant building or an exception applies. If the Commission makes the determination that the building is not a historically significant building the Administrator shall be advised and the permit will be issued provided all other applicable building regulations have been met.

- (5) **Final Determination.** After an initial determination by the Commission that any building is a historically significant building, it shall so advise the applicant and the Zoning Administrator, and a sixty (60) day demolition review period will be imposed. A demolition permit will not be granted and demolition is not permitted during the sixty (60) day review period. The sixty (60) day demolition review period starts on the date the Commission mails its decision via ordinary mail to the applicant. The Commission shall hold a public hearing prior to making a final determination that any building is a historically significant building. Notice shall be provided as follows:

Notice by Posted Sign: A notice shall be posted in a conspicuous place on or near the property upon which action is pending. Such notice shall be not less than eighteen (18) inches in height and twenty-four (24) inches in width with a white background and black letters not less than one and one-half (1 ½) inches in height. Such posted notice shall be so placed upon such premises that is easily visible from the street and shall be so posted at least ten (10) days before the date of such hearing through the date of the hearing. It shall be unlawful for any person to remove, mutilate, destroy or change such posted notice prior to such hearing.

Notice by Publication: At least ten (10) days before the date of hearing, the City Clerk shall have published in a newspaper having a general circulation in the City of Mount Vernon a Notice of the time, place and subject matter of such hearing.

No demolition permit or building permit for new construction or alterations on the premises shall be issued after the date of a determination that a building is a historically significant building unless an exception as provided for in subsection (6) applies.

During the sixty (60) day demolition review period, the Commission shall review all construction, demolition, or alteration that affects the exterior architectural features, including the landscape of the property.

The Commission will work with the applicant to have a historic survey done on the property, if necessary, and to determine if any of the following option or alternatives to demolition are feasible:

- A. The building can be considered for landmark designation.
- B. Rehabilitation of the building with the assistance of State or Federal tax incentives or other private financial assistance.
- C. Adapting the building to a new use.
- D. Finding a new owner who is interested in preserving/rehabilitating the building.
- E. Incorporating the building into the owner/applicant's redevelopment plans.
- F. Assisting in finding a different location for the owner's redevelopment.
- G. Moving the building to an alternative location.
- H. Salvaging building materials if the structure is to be demolished.
- I. Documenting the building prior to the issuance of a demolition permit.

The Commission shall make its findings in writing. Upon completion of the review, the Commission will advise the applicant and Zoning Administrator in writing whether a demolition permit can be issued. The Applicant may file an appeal on the record of the Commission's finding and the acts of the Zoning Administrator to the Board of Appeals of the City of Mount Vernon for final determination due to such findings or acts improperly applied the Ordinances of the City of Mount Vernon, were in excess of jurisdiction, were biased, were an abuse of power, considered facts that should not have been considered or did not consider facts that should have been considered. The Board of Appeals shall not review such appeal as a de novo appeal. An appeal of the decision of the Commission must be taken no later than 14 days after the decision is made and the applicant notified. Notification will be by ordinary mail. Notification is complete upon depositing the decision in the U. S. mail ordinary delivery with the appropriate postage.

- (6) **Exceptions.** Exceptions from the demolition review process will be afforded if an economic hardship can be demonstrated or a structure is considered an imminent threat to the health and/or safety of the public as determined by the Zoning Administrator. The burden of proof that an economic hardship exists is the applicant's responsibility. The Zoning Administrator will forward a copy of the application to the Historic Preservation Commission for a hardship exemption, along with the applicant's request for exemption from the demolition review process. The Historic Preservation Commission shall review the request for exemption, and shall respond to said application at its earliest convenience, but not more than fourteen (14) business days after receipt of the application by the Commission. Criteria for determination of an economic hardship include:
- A. The basis to establish economic hardship for an income producing property, including commercial uses or rental units, shall be that a reasonable rate of return cannot be obtained from a property that retains its historic features or structures in either its present condition or if its features or structures are rehabilitated.
 - B. Economic hardship in regard to a non-income producing property shall be found when the property owner demonstrates that the property has no beneficial use such as property used as a single-family dwelling or for an institutional, religious or governmental not-for-profit use in its present condition or if rehabilitated.
 - C. Demonstration of an economic hardship shall not be based on or include any of the following circumstances:
 - 1. Willful or negligent acts by the owner.
 - 2. Purchase of the property for substantially more than market value.
 - 3. Willful failure to perform normal maintenance and repairs.
 - 4. Willful failure to diligently solicit and retain tenants.
 - 5. Willful failure to provide normal tenant improvements.
 - D. If the Zoning Administrator has not received a decision from the Commission on the request for exemption within the fourteen (14) business day wait period, then the Zoning Administrator shall notify the Chairperson and Secretary of the Commission that a demolition permit will be issued seven (7) days after the date that this notice has been provided to the Chairperson and Secretary, unless prior to the expiration of seven (7) days, the Commission issues a written decision on the application for a hardship exemption for the demolition permit.
 - E. If the Commission fails to approve or deny the demolition permit at the end of the sixty (60) day review period, the application will be determined to have been granted and demolition can proceed accordingly.

VIOLATION AND PENALTIES

- A. Any person, firm or corporation violating or failing to comply with, or violating any terms or provisions of this chapter shall be subject to the penalty provisions of the ordinances of the City of Mount Vernon, Iowa.
- B. Failure to comply with the application process or failure to have a demolition permit pursuant to this Ordinance constitutes irreparable harm warranting injunctive relief to stop the demolition of any potentially historically significant building.

SECTION 2. REPEALER. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. SEVERABILITY CLAUSE. If any section, provision or part of this ordinance shall be adjudged invalid or unconstitutional, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or any section, provision, or part thereof not adjudicated invalid or unconstitutional.

SECTION 4. WHEN EFFECTIVE. This ordinance shall be in effect from and after its final passage, approval and publication as provided by law.

First reading on the _____ day of _____, 2015.

Second reading on the _____ day of _____, 2015.

Third and final passage on the _____ day of _____, 2015.

James L. Moore, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sue Ripke
Assistant City Administrator/Clerk

I certify that the foregoing was published as Ordinance # _____ in the Mount Vernon Sun on the _____ day of _____, 2015.

Sue Ripke
Assistant City Administrator/Clerk

AGENDA ITEM # J – 11

**AGENDA INFORMATION
MT. VERNON CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

DATE: June 20, 2016

AGENDA ITEM: Set Public Hearing Date – Table 4.2

ACTION: None

SYNOPSIS: Table 4.2 is part of the Mt. Vernon zoning Code. This was the text amendment that was remanded to the planning and zoning commission for further study. The proposed change to the table will be to allow retail uses in the LI Limited Industrial District. The actual text amendment being sought would place a P (for permitted use) in the retail categories for the LI District

BUDGET ITEM: N/A

RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT: Planning and Zoning

MAYOR/COUNCIL ACTION: Motion

ATTACHMENTS: None

PREPARED BY: Chris Nosbisch

DATE PREPARED: 6/17/16

AGENDA ITEM # J – 12

**AGENDA INFORMATION
MT. VERNON CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

DATE: June 20, 2016

AGENDA ITEM: Council Date

ACTION: None

SYNOPSIS: The first City Council meeting in July will fall on the July 4th holiday. Staff is proposing that the Council meeting be moved to Tuesday, July 5, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

BUDGET ITEM: N/A

RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT: City Administrator

MAYOR/COUNCIL ACTION: Motion

ATTACHMENTS: None

PREPARED BY: Chris Nosbisch

DATE PREPARED: 6/17/16

AGENDA ITEM # J – 13

**AGENDA INFORMATION
MT. VERNON CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATION**

DATE:	June 20, 2016
AGENDA ITEM:	Police Chief Contract
ACTION:	None

SYNOPSIS: The contract for the Chief of Police is set to expire at the end of this month. After communicating with Chief Shannon, only one change is being proposed in the contract. The proposed change would be under Section 1 Term. Staff is proposing that the language be changed to match the City Administrator contract and read as follows:

Section 1: Term

The City hereby employs Mr. Shannon in the capacity of Police Chief for an indefinite period commencing July 1, 2016, or until his employment is terminated according to the provisions of this Agreement.

BUDGET ITEM: N/A

RESPONSIBLE DEPARTMENT: City Administrator

MAYOR/COUNCIL ACTION: Motion

ATTACHMENTS: None

PREPARED BY: Chris Nosbisch

DATE PREPARED: 6/17/16

K. Reports-Received/File



MAY 2016
POLICE REPORT

Vehicle Collisions

There were 2 reported collisions for May. The first occurred in the Cornell College maintenance center parking lot when a vehicle was attempting to back into a parking space, and struck a parked vehicle causing minor damage to both vehicles. Damage was estimated at \$1,300.00. The second collision occurred at the Hwy 1 & 30 roundabout. This collision was a single vehicle incident, involving a semi who was westbound on Hwy 30 East of Hwy 1, and had approached the roundabout using the Hwy 1 northbound lane. When the driver realized he was in the wrong lane, the driver attempted to cut the raised medians, running over a Yield sign. The vehicle continued without reporting the incident. Officer located the semi near Cedar Rapids. The driver was cited for striking fixtures upon roadway. Damage was estimated at \$550.00

Incidents/Arrest

There were 29 reported incidents in May. Reports included counterfeit currency, theft, criminal mischief, possession of drug paraphernalia, forgery, OWI, public intoxication, domestic assault, harassment, aggravated assault with a weapon, driving while barred, and a dog bite.

The reported incidents resulted in 5 arrests for various charges including: OWI, public intoxication, possession of drug paraphernalia, driving while barred, domestic assault, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Community Service

- Officers assisted with the Chalk the Walk event, monitoring the area during overnight hours.
- Two Officers assisted Cornell College with Commencement activities
- Officer Gehrke spoke with MVHS students regarding driving safety and license rules
- Officer Gehrke and Officer Mehlert conducted ALICE training and review of building safety plans with Unity Point-Mount Vernon Family Practice on May 23, 2016
- Chief Shannon held a town hall meeting on May 23, 2016 with landlords to discuss the proposed Social Host Ordinance

Training

- Officer Daubs assisted Linn County Sheriff's Office in providing emergency vehicle operation training to deputies.
- Chief Shannon attended the Iowa Police Chief Association training conference in Coralville.



Mount
Vernon
IOWA

Chris Nosbisch, City Administrator
Douglas Shannon, Chief of Police

Jamie A. Hampton, Mayor

Council:

Eric Roudabush
Paul Tuerler
Marty Christensen
Scott Rose
Tom Wieseler

Public Works Report 6/13/16

Wastewater and Water distribution

Lisbon Road

At 739 Lisbon Road city staff spent 3 days repairing a water shut off. The city of Lisbon graciously let us use their Hydro Excavation trailer. This was required because of the underground utilities in the area. Crews had to excavate around 2 fiber optic cables, a gas main and service gas line, along with Mediacom and our own water main. For Roto Rooter to come out it would have cost in the ballpark of \$3000.00 dollars or more. Our guys were able to use this trailer at no cost from the city of Lisbon. The city is exploring some opportunities with the City of Lisbon on future use of this equipment.

Parks

City staff has begun to install a new roof on the dugouts at Davis Park. City staff will be installing metal roofs to minimize maintenance on these in the future.

New grills have been installed at the dog park along with at Bryant Park. Bryant Park did not previously have a grill so this is a new addition to this park. The dog park grill needed upgraded. A new grill will also be installed to replace the worn out grill at the Davis Park pavilion.

The drinking fountain at Memorial Park is now operational. Some new plumbing parts were on order sorry for the delay in the installation.

Streets

5th Avenue

The ROW has been finished by city staff. The contractor supplied the city with a better top soil. This was a better product for the city to work with. The contractor was required to dig out the original top soil they provided because it did not meet the expectations of the city. This created more disturbance on 5th Avenue. The end result though is a much better product for the residents in that neighborhood.

Drinking fountain

The drinking fountain on 1st Street and 2nd Avenue has been fixed and is operational. The fountain had a leak last season and has been fixed, along with received a new faucet.

Crosswalks

Crosswalks have been painted for the season. City staff will look into fixing the lines currently on 1st Street West. The hope would be to advertise in the paper prior to us doing any work on 1st Street that would impact traffic for extended periods of time.

M. Reports Mayor/Council/Manager

**CITY OF MT. VERNON
CITY ADMINISTRATOR
REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL
June 20, 2016**

- Thanks to Mother Nature and the improvements made to the pool, season passes are up significantly this year.
- Staff has met with V&K Engineering to look at the rough draft of the five year street plan. The plan also looks at the sidewalk system in the community, and identifies problem intersections and missing sidewalks.
- Main Street Iowa will be in town next week to complete the annual review. Staff will be meeting with representatives on Wednesday.
- Chad from ECICOG has held his initial meeting with planning and zoning members to officially kick off the zoning revisions.